



City and County of the City of Chester

# ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND  
COUNCILLORS OF THE  
CITY AND COUNTY OF  
THE CITY OF CHESTER

## On the Health of the City

and the

## Work of the Health Department in 1971

BY

D. F. MORGAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

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Together with the Report of the  
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
G. E. JARVIS, F.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.





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## HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1971

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### *Chairman:*

Councillor D. A. Ll. Jones

### *Deputy Chairman:*

Councillor Kathleen M. Roberts

### *Members:*

|                                |                            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Alderman R. E. France-Hayhurst | Councillor J. H. Jones     |
| Alderman F. R. Cleeves         | Councillor I. Thelma Davis |
| Alderman Tillie Price          | Councillor F. M. Marshall  |
| Councillor Florence M. Grogan  | Councillor Delia Rooks     |
| Councillor T. H. Tomlins       | Councillor E. R. Lowe      |
| Councillor W. T. Griffiths     | Councillor S. Pickstock    |
| Councillor Rita P. Knowles     |                            |

### *Co-opted Members:*

Dr. A. E. Elliott      Mr. A. R. Cannell  
Mr. J. M. Pott

---

## STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Medical Officer of Health ...          | D. F. Morgan, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.                     |
| Deputy Medical Officer of Health ..... | Thelma R. Asfour, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.                 |
| Medical Officers in Department .....   | Aine Conway, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.                      |
| Chief Public Health Inspector .....    | G. E. Jarvis, F.A.P.H.I., F.R.S.H.                    |
| Principal Nursing Officer ...          | Miss D. E. Paddon, M.B.E., S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Q.N. |
| Senior Mental Welfare Officer          | D. B. Davies  |
| Chief Clerk .....                      | R. W. Hudson  |
| Home Help Organiser .....              | Mrs. C. Buckley                                       |
| Dee Banks—                             |   |
| Adult Centre Manager ...               | P. A. Robinson  |
| Junior Centre Head Teacher             | Mrs. L. Prendiville                                   |
| Ambulance Officer .....                | S Chesters  |
| Family Caseworker .....                | Mrs. P. Hewitt  |



Telephones: Chester 27161  
25142  
25167

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
ST. MARTIN'S HOUSE,  
CHESTER.  
CH1 2BA

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Members of the City Council.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Re-organisation of Local Government and of the National Health Service, which will be implemented on 1st April, 1974, has resulted in uncertainty about future employment and so has caused a shortage of medical and nursing staff. The effect has been that some of our statutory and Council duties had to be deferred in spite of repeated efforts to recruit part-time doctors and nurses.

Early in 1971, the new Social Services Department was formed and commenced to function in April, 1971. Some of the Health Services (Mental Health, Home Helps, care of unmarried mothers, and personal social services) were taken over by this Department, but Health Centres, Midwifery, Health Visiting, Home Nursing, Maternal and Child Health Care, Ambulances, Vaccination and Immunisation, Care and After Care (including Tuberculosis, Chiropody and Laundry Service), Infectious Disease control, Environmental Health, Family Planning and Health Education, continued to be administered by the Health Department.

New Health Centres were planned, and work on the Lache Health Centre (the first in the City to accommodate General Medical Practitioners) progressed well, and plans were made for another centre in the Boughton area.

The Ambulance Service was carefully reviewed, a new Radio-Telephone system installed and a new Ambulance Depot planned. Training of the staff continued.

The new Maternity Wing of West Cheshire Hospital opened its doors on 1st November, 1971, and arrangements were made for City Midwives to attend patients in General Practitioner beds there.

Efforts were made to improve the acceptance rate for Vaccination and Immunisations in the City (which had caused us much concern) and co-operation with the Cheshire County Scheme in the use of their computer was welcomed.

The character of some of our Child Welfare Clinics was changed by the introduction of Developmental Paediatrics by staff who had been trained therein. Family Planning was assisted by a grant under the Urban Programme when the Council decided to run its own clinic in the City.

The year was one of good progress—progress towards what we understand will be the future picture of the Health Service in the country, and it is with gratitude that I recall not only the ever welcome support of the Health Committee, but also the team work and discipline of the staff. We hope sincerely that when the new National Health Service commences, there will be found adequate recognition of their experience and abilities, and of the commendable application to their duties which they have shown this year.

Yours faithfully,

D. F. MORGAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

## GENERAL STATISTICS

|   |     |     |     |     |     |          |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Area in Acres                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4659     |
| Population (Registrar General's estimate) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 62700    |
| Number of inhabited houses                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 21350    |
| Rateable Value                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £3805554 |
| Sum represented by 1p rate                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £36191   |

## VITAL STATISTICS

| <b>Live Births</b>   |             |               |              |  | <b>Birth Rate per 1,000<br/>Population</b>                                |
|--|-------------|---------------|--------------|--|---|
|  | <b>Male</b> | <b>Female</b> | <b>Total</b> |  |   |
| Legitimate   | 474         | 446           | 920          |  |   |
| Illegitimate   | 48          | 58            | 106          |  |   |
| Totals   | 522         | 504           | 1026         |  | 16.4  |
| <b>Illegitimate Live Births</b>                              |             |               |              |  |   |
| Percentage of Total Live Births                              |             |               |              |  | 10.3  |
| <b>Still Births</b>  |             |               |              |  | <b>Still Birth Rate per 1,000<br/>(Live and Still) Births</b>             |
|  | 11          | 5             | 16           |  | 15.4  |
| <b>Live and Still Births</b>                                 |             |               |              |  |   |
| Totals   | 533         | 509           | 1042         |  |   |
| <b>Deaths</b>  |             |               |              |  | <b>Death Rate per 1,000<br/>Live Births</b>                               |
| All Infants  | 15          | 8             | 23           |  | 22.4  |
| Legitimate Infants   | 13          | 8             | 21           |  | <b>Death Rate per 1,000<br/>legitimate Live Births</b><br>22.8            |
| Illegitimate Infants   | 2           | —             | 2            |  | <b>Death Rate per 1,000<br/>illegitimate Live Births</b><br>18.9          |
| <b>Neonatal</b><br>(first 4 weeks)                           | 12          | 4             | 16           |  | <b>Death Rate per 1,000<br/>Live Births</b><br>15.6                       |
| <b>Early Neonatal</b><br>(under 1 week)                      | 10          | 4             | 14           |  | 13.6  |
| <b>Peri-Natal</b><br>(Still Births plus Deaths under 1 week) | 21          | 9             | 30           |  | <b>Death Rate per 1,000<br/>Live and Still Births</b><br>28.8             |
| <b>Maternal (including<br/>abortion)</b>                     | —           | —             | 1            |  | <b>Death Rate per 1,000<br/>Total (Live and Still)<br/>Births</b><br>0.96 |
| All Causes   | 366         | 353           | 719          |  | <b>Death Rate per 1,000<br/>Population</b><br>11.5                        |
| Respiratory Tuberculosis                                     | —           | —             | —            |  | <b>Death Rate per 1,000<br/>Population</b><br>0.00                        |
| Other forms of<br>Tuberculosis                               | —           | —             | —            |  | <b>Death Rate per 1,000<br/>Population</b><br>0.00                        |
| Cancer   | 78          | 67            | 145          |  | <b>Death Rate per 1,000<br/>Population</b><br>2.3                         |



## POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

The estimated population of 62,700 shows a somewhat higher increase over 1970, than previous years have done, but the number of births (1,026) is the lowest since 1958. The Birth Rate (crude = 16.4, adjusted 16.7) is the lowest since 1958, but still above the rate of 16.0 for England and Wales.

### Illegitimacy

There was a welcome drop in the percentage of live births which were illegitimate, and the following table gives the previous years:—

|      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 1960 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5.1  |
| 1961 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6.1  |
| 1962 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7.3  |
| 1963 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6.3  |
| 1964 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8.2  |
| 1965 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8.4  |
| 1966 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8.8  |
| 1967 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9.5  |
| 1968 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10.4 |
| 1969 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10.5 |
| 1970 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12.3 |
| 1971 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10.3 |

## DEATH RATE

At 719 deaths, the Death Rate (unadjusted 11.5, adjusted 12.7) shows a welcome drop from the high figures of 1970, and the upsurge in cancer of the lung and bronchus seen then has happily not been maintained, though at 47 deaths, the figure stands next to highest over the past 12 years.

Deaths from accidents fell slightly, but otherwise there was little significant change in the causes of death.

### Deaths from Cancer of Lung and Bronchus

| Year | No. of<br>Deaths from<br>Lung Cancer | Males | Females |
|------|--------------------------------------|-------|---------|
| 1960 | 21                                   | 19    | 2       |
| 1961 | 37                                   | 33    | 4       |
| 1962 | 35                                   | 29    | 6       |
| 1963 | 36                                   | 31    | 5       |
| 1964 | 39                                   | 37    | 2       |
| 1965 | 30                                   | 26    | 4       |
| 1966 | 43                                   | 35    | 8       |
| 1967 | 47                                   | 35    | 12      |
| 1968 | 47                                   | 39    | 8       |
| 1969 | 46                                   | 38    | 8       |
| 1970 | 56                                   | 47    | 9       |
| 1971 | 47                                   | 38    | 9       |

The Authority is a member of the Merseyside Cancer Education Committee.

Prematurity was still the commonest cause of death.

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|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
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| Congenital Abnormality  |     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2  |
| Acute Infections<br>(Meningitis, Encephalitis, Broncho-pneumonia, etc.) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6  |
| Gastro-enteritis  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
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CAUSE OF DEATH

|   | M A L E        |        |   |    |              |    |     |    |     |     | F E M A L E    |     |    |     |              |     |    |           |       |        |
|---|----------------|--------|---|----|--------------|----|-----|----|-----|-----|----------------|-----|----|-----|--------------|-----|----|-----------|-------|--------|
|   | 4 wks. & under |        |   |    | Age in Years |    |     |    |     |     | 4 wks. & under |     |    |     | Age in Years |     |    |           |       |        |
|   | Total          | 1 year | 4 | 1— | 5—           | 14 | 15— | 24 | 25— | 35— | 44             | 45— | 54 | 55— | 64           | 65— | 74 | 75 & Over | Total | 1 year |
| Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases | 1              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 3     | 2      |
| Malaria                                 | 1              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | —     | 1      |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus          | 4              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | —     | —      |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach             | 12             | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 10    | —      |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine           | 8              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 11    | —      |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx              | 1              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | —     | —      |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus      | 38             | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 9     | —      |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Breast              | —              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 11    | —      |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus              | —              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 4     | —      |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate            | 1              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | —     | —      |
| Leukaemia                               | 1              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 2     | —      |
| Other Malignant Neoplasms               | 13             | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 20    | —      |
| Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms        | 1              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 1     | —      |
| Diabetes Mellitus                       | 9              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 6     | —      |
| Avitaminoses, etc.                      | —              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 1     | —      |
| Other Endocrine, etc., Diseases         | —              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 1     | —      |
| Anaemias                                | 1              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 1     | —      |
| Other Diseases of Nervous System        | 1              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 1     | —      |
| Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease         | 2              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 1     | —      |
| Hypertensive Disease                    | 8              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 11    | —      |
| Ischaemic Heart Disease                 | 91             | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 5     | —      |
| Other Forms of Heart Disease            | 9              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 32    | —      |
| Cerebrovascular Disease                 | 35             | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 45    | —      |
| Other Diseases of Circulatory System    | 8              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 22    | —      |
| Influenza                               | —              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 2     | —      |
| Pneumonia                               | 38             | 2      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 43    | —      |
| Bronchitis and Emphysema                | 32             | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 9     | —      |
| Other Diseases of Respiratory System    | 3              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 4     | —      |
| Peptic Ulcer                            | 3              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 1     | —      |
| Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia       | 1              | 1      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 2     | —      |
| Cirrhosis of Liver                      | 1              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 2     | —      |
| Other Diseases of Digestive System      | 5              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 2     | —      |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis                 | 3              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 3     | —      |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate                 | 2              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | —     | —      |
| Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System   | 1              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 5     | —      |
| Other Complications of Pregnancy, etc.  | —              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 1     | —      |
| Skin Diseases, Subcutaneous Tissue      | —              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 1     | —      |
| Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System     | —              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 4     | —      |
| Congenital Anomalies                    | 6              | 4      | 1 | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 2     | —      |
| Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.    | 2              | 2      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 2     | —      |
| Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality     | 6              | 6      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 2     | —      |
| Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions     | —              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 3     | —      |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents                 | 9              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 5     | —      |
| All Other Accidents                     | 3              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 4     | —      |
| Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries     | 4              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 1     | —      |
| All Other External Causes               | 2              | —      | — | —  | —            | —  | —   | —  | —   | —   | —              | —   | —  | —   | —            | —   | —  | —         | 1     | —      |

# VITAL STATISTICS OF DISTRICT FOR 1971 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

15

| Year | Estimated<br>Population | Births | Birth Rate<br>(Not Adjusted) | Deaths | Death Rate<br>(Not<br>Adjusted) | Deaths under<br>One Year | Rate per<br>1,000 Live<br>Births |
|------|-------------------------|--------|------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1955 | 58500                   | 934    | 15.9                         | 680    | 11.7                            | 15                       | 16.1                             |
| 1956 | 58800                   | 1006   | 17.1                         | 702    | 11.9                            | 36                       | 35.7                             |
| 1957 | 59100                   | 985    | 16.6                         | 626    | 10.5                            | 23                       | 23.3                             |
| 1958 | 59300                   | 970    | 16.3                         | 647    | 10.9                            | 18                       | 18.6                             |
| 1959 | 59700                   | 1046   | 17.5                         | 683    | 11.4                            | 31                       | 29.5                             |
| 1960 | 60090                   | 1076   | 17.9                         | 648    | 10.8                            | 31                       | 28.8                             |
| 1961 | 59060                   | 1035   | 17.5                         | 699    | 11.8                            | 28                       | 27.05                            |
| 1962 | 59030                   | 1130   | 19.1                         | 710    | 12.02                           | 34                       | 30.08                            |
| 1963 | 59370                   | 1114   | 18.8                         | 718    | 12.09                           | 23                       | 20.6                             |
| 1964 | 59800                   | 1160   | 19.4                         | 678    | 11.3                            | 37                       | 31.9                             |
| 1965 | 59800                   | 1098   | 18.4                         | 670    | 11.2                            | 16                       | 14.6                             |
| 1966 | 60360                   | 1109   | 18.4                         | 683    | 11.3                            | 14                       | 12.6                             |
| 1967 | 60360                   | 1089   | 18.0                         | 738    | 12.2                            | 27                       | 24.8                             |
| 1968 | 60620                   | 1075   | 17.7                         | 763    | 12.6                            | 15                       | 13.9                             |
| 1969 | 60880                   | 1086   | 17.8                         | 714    | 11.7                            | 20                       | 18.4                             |
| 1970 | 61490                   | 1072   | 17.4                         | 780    | 12.7                            | 15                       | 14.0                             |
| 1971 | 62700                   | 1026   | 16.4                         | 719    | 11.5                            | 23                       | 22.0                             |

## NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were 41 notified cases of Measles and 9 of Dysentery.

I am pleased to record that again there were no cases of Poliomyelitis notified.

Infective Hepatitis (Infectious Jaundice) became notifiable in 1968. Little is known about the aetiology of this disease but it is thought to be carried in the intestinal tract.

There were 6 cases notified as against 93 in 1970.

**Cholera.** Reassurance about the effects of cases of cholera was welcome and people entering the country from a cholera area had to have a certificate of vaccination against the disease.

### Control of Notifiable Diseases

On receipt of notification from the General Medical Practitioner, the staff of Health Visitors make immediate investigation and report to the Medical Officer of Health. Help from other sections of the Health Department may be necessary, especially in cases of Food Poisoning.

The Medical Officer of Health and Deputy have been given authority to issue notices in emergency to stop the spread of Infectious Diseases. School closure is now only very rarely considered a good step to control the spread.

## FOOD POISONING

There are, for public health purposes, three types of poisoning:—

- (a) Poisoning by chemical agents in food, e.g. lead poisoning from beer.
- (b) Poisoning by bacterial toxins (exotoxins).  
No living organisms may be present, yet heat-stable toxins can give illness.
- (c) Poisoning by bacteria themselves (endotoxins).  
This includes the Salmonella Groups.

It will be seen then that bacteriological examination may be negative and yet the food can poison. Normally group (c) is the most common and usually caused by Salmonella organisms.

Immediate notification of Food Poisoning is of the utmost importance—preferably by telephone, so that portions of uneaten food might be obtained, and specimens from the patient examined before the organism is 'washed out' of the intestinal tract by diarrhoea.

Eight cases were notified during the year.

Under the **PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1961**, compensation is payable by the Local Health Authority to contacts and cases of Notifiable Infectious Disease who are recommended by the Medical Officer of Health to cease their work temporarily on this account. The total amount thus paid during the financial year was £6.75.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1971

| DISEASE                                | Under 1<br>year | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5—9 | 10—14 | 15—24 | 25—44 | 45—64 | 65 &<br>over | Age<br>un-<br>known | Total<br>all<br>ages |
|--|-----------------|---|---|---|---|-----|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|---------------------|----------------------|
|  |                 |   |   |   |   |     |       |       |       |       |              |                     |                      |
| Scarlet Fever .....                    | —               | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 7   | 5     | —     | —     | —     | —            | 1                   | 19                   |
| Whooping Cough .....                   | 5               | 1 | 1 | — | 4 | 8   | 1     | —     | —     | —     | —            | 1                   | 21                   |
| Measles .....                          | —               | 2 | 9 | 6 | 5 | 17  | 1     | 1     | —     | —     | —            | —                   | 41                   |
| Polioomyelitis—Paralytic .....         | —               | — | — | — | — | —   | —     | —     | —     | —     | —            | —                   | —                    |
| Polioomyelitis—Non-Paralytic .....     | —               | — | — | — | — | —   | —     | —     | —     | —     | —            | —                   | —                    |
| Diphtheria .....                       | —               | — | — | — | — | —   | —     | —     | —     | —     | —            | —                   | —                    |
| Smallpox .....                         | —               | — | — | — | — | —   | —     | —     | —     | —     | —            | —                   | —                    |
| Meningococcal Infection .....          | 2               | — | — | — | — | —   | —     | —     | —     | —     | —            | —                   | 2                    |
| Acute Encephalitis—Infective .....     | —               | — | — | — | — | —   | —     | —     | —     | —     | —            | —                   | —                    |
| Acute Encephalitis—Post Infectious ... | —               | — | — | — | — | —   | —     | —     | —     | —     | —            | —                   | —                    |
| Dysentery .....                        | 1               | 2 | 1 | — | — | —   | 1     | —     | 2     | —     | 2            | —                   | 9                    |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....            | 1               | — | — | — | — | —   | —     | —     | —     | —     | —            | —                   | 1                    |
| Para Typhoid .....                     | —               | — | — | — | — | —   | —     | —     | —     | —     | —            | —                   | —                    |
| Typhoid .....                          | —               | — | — | — | — | —   | —     | —     | —     | —     | —            | —                   | —                    |
| Food Poisoning .....                   | 2               | — | 1 | — | — | 2   | —     | 2     | 1     | —     | —            | —                   | 8                    |
| Malaria .....                          | —               | — | — | — | — | —   | —     | —     | 2     | 1     | —            | —                   | 3                    |
| Infective Jaundice .....               | —               | — | — | — | — | —   | 4     | 1     | 1     | —     | —            | —                   | 6                    |



## PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1952

The total of new cases notified was eight, as detailed in the following table:—

## TUBERCULOSIS

| AGE PERIODS   | NEW CASES   |    |                 |    | DEATHS      |    |                 |    |
|---------------|-------------|----|-----------------|----|-------------|----|-----------------|----|
|               | Respiratory |    | Non-Respiratory |    | Respiratory |    | Non-Respiratory |    |
|               | M.          | F. | M.              | F. | M.          | F. | M.              | F. |
| 0— ... ..     | —           | —  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 1— ... ..     | —           | —  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 2— ... ..     | —           | —  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 5— ... ..     | —           | —  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 10— ... ..    | —           | —  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 15— ... ..    | —           | —  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 20— ... ..    | 1           | —  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 25— ... ..    | 2           | —  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 35— ... ..    | —           | —  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 45— ... ..    | 1           | —  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 55— ... ..    | 1           | 1  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 65— ... ..    | 2           | —  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| 75— ... ..    | —           | —  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |
| Totals ... .. | 7           | 1  | —               | —  | —           | —  | —               | —  |

An account of Preventive and After-Care work is given under Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care, later in the report.

## VENEREAL DISEASE

The following table gives the numbers who, resident in Chester, attended the V.D. Clinic for the first time:—

|                         | 1968       | 1969       | 1970       | 1971       |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Syphilis ... ..         | —          | 3          | 6          | 4          |
| Gonorrhoea ... ..       | 29         | 33         | 44         | 83         |
| Other Conditions ... .. | 109        | 145        | 126        | 242        |
|                         | <u>138</u> | <u>181</u> | <u>176</u> | <u>329</u> |

The disquieting increase in venereal diseases continues to stigmatise the 'permissive' nature of our society. Although prevention of V.D. obviously begins 'at home', by the example and teaching of the parents, the Local Authority was advised to revise its schemes for contact tracing and to do much more Health Education. There is no doubt in my mind that if the tragedy and misery caused by V.D. were only better known,

and if we could only educate parents to teach their children that self discipline is essential now as it ever has been, then promiscuity would drop dramatically and we should be a happier and healthier nation.

The V.D. Clinics are held at Chester Royal Infirmary as follows:—

Males—

Wednesdays, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Females—

Mondays, 4-30 p.m. to 7-30 p.m.

## SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACTS

### HEALTH CENTRES (Section 21)

A total of 17 General Medical Practitioners out of 40 in the City had indicated their interest in Health Centre accommodation if it were provided by the Local Health Authority. A plan to provide a Health Centre at Lache was approved in principle and plans were prepared and loan sanction requested. This centre was to form part of a Community Health Centre for the area and was the first one built by the Local Health Authority to accommodate General Medical Practitioners' surgeries.

Later in the year, a site in Boughton was earmarked for a second Health Centre, and discussions began on the requirements of Doctors, and other Local Authority departments.

### CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN (Section 27)

#### (i) Expectant Mothers

Antenatal Clinics are held at the City Hospital, Monday to Friday, each week. Many General Practitioners also hold weekly Antenatal Clinics in their surgeries which are attended by Midwives. Patients who are to be confined in their own homes are visited by the Midwives employed by the City Council, or they may attend the Midwives Clinic at Blacon (which commenced in 1964 and is open every Monday afternoon) or at the Central Clinic (which commenced in October, 1965), and is now open on Wednesday afternoons at St. Martin's House. The purpose of these Midwives Clinics is to speed up the Midwives' work, to give better Health Education and to provide a means of intercommunication between the Midwives their pupils and their patients.

## (ii) Child Health Clinics

The following Child Welfare Clinics were in operation at the end of 1971:—

**Mondays:**

St. Martin's House, 2—4 p.m.

**Tuesdays:**

Saltney—St. Mark's Church Hall, 2—4 p.m.

Hoole—All Saints' Church Hall, 2—4 p.m.

**Wednesdays:**

Blacon—The Clinic, 10 a.m.—12 noon and 2—4 p.m. (two sessions)

**Thursday:**

St. Martin's House, 2—4 p.m.

Blacon—The Clinic, 2—4 p.m.

**Fridays:**

Hoole—All Saints' Church Hall, 2—4 p.m.

Arrangements were put in hand towards the end of the year for staff (Doctors and Nursing Staff) who had been trained in Developmental Paediatrics to take over the routine work of some of the Child Health Clinics. Appointments were to be given for children when they reached certain ages and records made of their progress and development.

**ST. MARTIN'S HOUSE CHILD HEALTH CENTRE**

| Attendances  | 1970 | 1971 |
|--|------|------|
| (a) By children under one year of age ... ..               | 2027 | 2109 |
| (b) By children between the ages of one and five years ... | 857  | 815  |
| <b>Consultations with Medical Officer:—</b>                |      |      |
| (a) Children under one year ... ..                         | 639  | 712  |
| (b) Children, one to five years ... ..                     | 487  | 435  |

**SALTNEY CHILD HEALTH CENTRE**

|  |      |      |
|--|------|------|
| (a) By children under one year of age ... ..               | 1399 | 1478 |
| (b) By children between the ages of one and five years ... | 397  | 348  |
| <b>Consultations with Medical Officer:—</b>                |      |      |
| (a) Children under one year ... ..                         | 368  | 373  |
| (b) Children, one to five years ... ..                     | 223  | 168  |

**BLACON CHILD HEALTH CENTRE**

|  |      |      |
|--|------|------|
| (a) By children under one year of age ... ..               | 4669 | 4647 |
| (b) By children between the ages of one and five years ... | 2618 | 2266 |
| <b>Consultations with Medical Officer:—</b>                |      |      |
| (a) Children under one year ... ..                         | 1299 | 1233 |
| (b) Children, one to five years ... ..                     | 938  | 814  |

## HOOLE CHILD HEALTH CENTRE

| Attendances  | 1970 | 1971 |
|--|------|------|
| (a) By children under one year of age ... ..               | 2583 | 2131 |
| (b) By children between the ages of one and five years ... | 570  | 569  |
| Consultations with Medical Officer:—                       |      |      |
| (a) Children under one year ... ..                         | 639  | 644  |
| (b) Children, one to five years ... ..                     | 310  | 389  |

## TOTAL ATTENDANCES

|   |       |       |
|---|-------|-------|
| (a) By children under one year old ... ..     | 10678 | 10365 |
| (b) By children aged one to five years ... .. | 4442  | 3998  |
|   | <hr/> | <hr/> |
|   | 15120 | 14363 |
|   | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Consultations with Medical Officer:—          |       |       |
| (a) Children under one year old ... ..        | 2945  | 2962  |
| (b) Children aged one to five years ... ..    | 1958  | 1806  |
|   | <hr/> | <hr/> |
|   | 4903  | 4768  |
|   | <hr/> | <hr/> |

## (iii) Premature Infants

There is a Premature Infant Unit at the City Hospital which caters for infants below 5½ lbs. weight, so that few had to be nursed at home. The ambulances are specially wired to carry the Premature Baby Incubators which are kept at the City Hospital.

By arrangement with the Consultant Paediatrician, one Health Visitor attended the Premature Unit at the City Hospital. There were adequate follow-up arrangements for home treatment after discharge from the hospital and co-operation in this field has been excellent.

One Health Visitor visits Special Units weekly at the City Hospital.

The number of Premature Births during 1971 was:—

|                               | Live Births | Still Births |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Born in Hospital ... ..       | 76          | 10           |
| (Fifteen died under 28 days). |             |              |
| Born at Home ... ..           | 2           | —            |
| (None died under 28 days).    |             |              |
| Children born 'at risk':—     |             |              |
| In Hospital ... ..            |             | 263          |
| (Malformations, 29).          |             |              |
| At Home ... ..                |             | 11           |
| (Malformations, Nil).         |             |              |

**(iv) Notification of Congenital Defects apparent at birth**

During 1971, 20 cases of Congenital Abnormalities were notified, three of whom had abnormalities of the Central Nervous System, and two others considered to be Mongoloid. (This is a marked difference from 1969 when 13 out of 31 had C.N.S. defects). These figures now fall within the normal run of C.N.S. defects in the newborn in the City. A great deal of research is going on into abnormalities which are associated with genetic variation. One form of Mongolism, for example, is associated with a chromosome abnormality in the body cells. Many syndromes associated with particular types of variation are being described. This is a new branch of science and the various causes of chromosome abnormality are still being worked out.

| Year                                 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total Births                         | 1098 | 1109 | 1089 | 1075 | 1086 | 1072 | 1026 |
| Congenital Abnormalities             | 11   | 15   | 25   | 15   | 31   | 39   | 25   |
| Central Nervous System Abnormalities | 2    | 2    | 7    | 3    | 13   | 5    | 8    |

**(v) Supply of Baby Foods and Nutrients**

National Dried Milk, Welfare Foods and Nutrients, were available to the public at the Health Department, St. Martin's House, the hours of opening being:—

Monday to Friday: 8-30 a.m. to 5-15 p.m.

The Centre is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays.

In accord with other Local Authorities, the number of brands of baby foods was cut down, as well as some nutrients, which were all available at local pharmacies.

In cases of hardship, free foods can be given where the family income is below Social Security standards and is not being supplemented. At the discretion of the clinic Medical Officer, free cereal can be given in necessitous cases.

**(vi) Dental Care****Dental Services for Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Children Under 5 Years**

Services for Expectant and Nursing Mothers and children under five years are provided free at the School Dental Clinic.

**Attendances****Number of Visits for Treatment—**

|   |     |     |     |     | <b>Children</b> | <b>Expectant and Nursing Mothers</b> |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| First Visit   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 149             | 81                                   |
| Subsequent Visits   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 86              | 139                                  |
| Total   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 235             | 220                                  |
| Additional Courses of Treatment other than First Course started in 1971 |     |     |     |     | 6               | 2                                    |

**Treatment**

Statistical Details are kept by the Chief Dental Officer. (P.S.D.O.).



## Sessions

Number of Sessions for Priority Maternity and Child Welfare Cases, 118.

(No special sessions for Health Education).

### (vi) Institutional Provision for Mothers and Children

On 31st October, the City Ambulance Service transferred maternity cases from the City Hospital to the new Maternity Wing of the West Cheshire Hospital, which opened its doors on 1st November. The accommodation at this Hospital consists partly of specialist obstetrical beds for cases which are not straightforward, and partly of General Practitioner beds, where the confinement is carried out under the direction of the patients' own doctor. The City Midwives attend these confinements as if they were being dealt with in their own homes.

The eventual outcome of such an arrangement would be that, unless circumstances made it impossible (and the patient must have free choice), all confinements would take place in the Maternity Wing. The advantages to mother, child and the household are readily apparent.

### (vii) Family Planning Act, 1967

Since the beginning of 1970, the Family Planning Association acted as agents for the Authority in providing family planning services for Chester people, the Association being reimbursed on a 'per capita' basis, and cases of hardship and unmarried females were referred to the Medical Officer of Health.

A Domiciliary service was also provided by the Association on behalf of the Authority. Both the Domiciliary and Clinic services were for an initial trial period of a year.

The scheme adopted by the City was No. 6xx in the F.P.A.'s handbook, but medical cases had to be referred to the Medical Officer of Health for acceptance. For unmarried females, the scheme was restricted to services only, i.e. not supplies. This scheme was reviewed at the end of the year.

No. of cases referred: (a) at Clinic      26

(b) Domiciliary      —

The Health Authority decided to train Doctors and Nurses on the staff in Family Planning so that we could open our own clinic (as is done in some adjacent areas) in addition to the Clinic run by the Family Planning Association. By the end of the year, sufficient staff had been trained.

When the Local Authority Clinic opened, the Family Planning Association would no longer act as agents for the Chester Health Authority, but it was hoped that the F.P.A. Clinic would continue independently and so provide an adequate service for the City and adjacent areas.

### UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND THEIR INFANTS

The Authority gives financial assistance where this is necessary to unmarried mothers for six weeks before and six weeks after confinement. This period may be prolonged on application and especially in the case of



young girls. The Chester and District Moral Welfare Association greatly assist us by investigating cases and finding accommodation in suitable Mother and Baby Homes. Many cases assisted in this way are not referred for financial assistance, but where this is so, assessment is made of the need for help. The Local Health Authority expects the putative father to take his share of the financial responsibility.

On 1st April, 1971, this service was taken over by the Social Services Department.

## **THE NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS (REGULATION) ACT, 1948. (AS AMENDED BY THE HEALTH SERVICES AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1968)**

By the end of 1970, the number of Nursery and Play Groups privately run in the City was 23; they catered for 296 young children. There was no lack of provision for the Priority Groups (deprived children, inadequately housed, in poor health or with special needs).

On 1st April, 1971, this service was taken over by the Social Services Department, though for some months after the actual visiting of these groups was undertaken by the Health Department staff (Deputy M.O.H., etc.) to ensure a smooth changeover.

## **MIDWIFERY (Section 23)**

### **The Local Health Authority Services**

The staff of seven full-time and one part-time Midwives was generally sufficient and there was no shortage of Midwives in the City.

Three City Midwives are now approved by the Central Midwives Board to undertake the teaching of pupils. The City Hospital was approved for the Part II Training of pupil Midwives and arrangements were made for their District Training. Seventeen pupils were trained by the Local Authority in 1971. Midwives receive Refresher Courses as required by the Central Midwives Board.

### **Attachment of Midwives to General Medical Practitioners**

A scheme for the attachment of the City Midwives was commenced in April 1970 and this entailed much greater mileages by the midwives, as each one had to cover the whole area of the City. Suitable arrangements were made.

### **Hospital Accommodation**

The new Maternity Wing of the West Cheshire Hospital opened on 1st November, 1971, and included 24 beds for General Medical Practitioners, besides the specialist Obstetricians' beds. Arrangements were made for City Midwives to attend confinements in the G.P. beds there, as well as in the homes of patients who preferred home confinement.

### Case Load

There were 166 confinements at home, but 98 other cases were admitted to hospital for delivery because of some obstetric abnormality. There were also 79 cases discharged from hospital within 48 hours of delivery, and 751 were discharged between the second and tenth day after confinement.

The numbers of Early Discharges were as follows:—

|            |     |            |     |
|------------|-----|------------|-----|
| 1964 ..... | 758 | 1968 ..... | 659 |
| 1965 ..... | 693 | 1969 ..... | 710 |
| 1966 ..... | 692 | 1970 ..... | 764 |
| 1967 ..... | 663 | 1971 ..... | 830 |

### Home Confinement

Patients are urged to consult their own doctors early in pregnancy and then, with the pregnancy confirmed, immediately to get in touch with the Midwife or Principal Nursing Officer.

One hundred and sixty-six home confinements were attended by the Municipal Midwives.

Fourteen confinements were conducted at St. Bridget's Mother and Baby Home.

### Statistics

Full Statistics are kept by the Principal Nursing Officer.

|   | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 |
|---|------|------|------|
| No. of Cases attended ... ..                | 242  | 211  | 176  |
| No of antenatal visits ... ..               | 3459 | 7197 | 6380 |
| No. of daily nursing visits ... ..          | 7356 | 8234 | 7061 |
| No. of 'Trilene' cases ... ..               | 196  | 182  | 115  |
| Gas and Air or Oxygen ... ..                | 1    | —    | —    |
| 'Pethidine' ... ..                          | 212  | 174  | 143  |
| General anaesthetics ... ..                 | 2    | 2    | —    |
| Doctor called in by Midwife ... ..          | 87   | 65   | 62   |
| Cases delivered in Hospital (all areas) ... | 2144 | 2239 | 2490 |
| City cases delivered in hospital ... ..     | 835  | 814  | 865  |

### Ophthalmia Neonatorum

One case was notified.

### Antenatal Care

The Midwives Clinics continued at Blacon:

|                      | Sessions | Attendances |
|----------------------|----------|-------------|
| Blacon Clinic ... .. | 48       | 105         |

Maternity Packs are issued to expectant mothers due to be confined at home.

| Hospital             |     | Antenatal Clinic    | Postnatal Clinic  |
|----------------------|-----|---------------------|-------------------|
| No. of City Patients | ... | 1049 (1073 in 1970) | 119 (265 in 1970) |
| No. of Attendances   | ... | 5939 (5759 in 1970) | 126 (285 in 1970) |

#### 4. HEALTH VISITING (Sec. 24)

##### Staff

The establishment of ten Health Visitors had been superseded by eight Health Visitors and two Assistant Nurses because it was not possible to recruit ten Health Visitors. The Training Scheme for pupil Health Visitors was approved, and the future establishment in 1971, became nine Health Visitors (and two Assistant Nurses). It was necessary, however, to defer the appointment of the additional Health Visitor until 1st September, 1971.

An analysis of the employment of Nursing Staff (Midwives, Health Visitors and Home Nurses) by Local Health Authorities throughout the country shows that on 30th September, 1971, Chester had an average number of Health Visitors, above average number of Midwives, but Home Nurses were very much below strength, there being one per 6,270 population, as against the average 5,082 population for England.

##### Attachment Scheme

The attachment of Health Visitors to General Medical Practitioners which began in 1968 continued, and all our Health Visitors were allied to a number of practices in the City, leaving certain Clinic and School duties to be carried on by Clinic and Assistant Nurses. The table of visits which follows shows the increase in number resulting from attachment.

##### Further Training

The Health Visitors and Nurses have had tuition in Audiology from Manchester University staff to enable them to test young children. Routine Audiology Tests were subsequently carried out on children of nine months old, at the clinics as in 1970. Children with defects were referred to specialists.

##### The following visits were paid by Health Visitors:—

|                                | (1970) | 1971 |
|--------------------------------|--------|------|
| Primary Birth Visits           | 1032   | 1029 |
| Subsequent Visits to Infants   | 4700   | 4325 |
| Visits to Pre-School Children  | 2725   | 3668 |
| Visits to Expectant Mothers    | 146    | 259  |
| Visits to over 65's            | —      | 1539 |
| Other Visits                   | 2832   | 995  |
| Cases of Tuberculosis (Visits) | 564    | 498  |

## **Guthrie Test**

Every newborn child has a blood test to show whether or not a metabolic disorder (giving phenylketonuria, which can delay mental development) is present. The numbers tested in 1969 were 696, 1970—1,046 and 1971—1,026. The collection of test specimens was taken over by the City Midwives, as tests had to be carried out at the early age of six days. None was positive.

## **Health Education**

This is one of the most important functions of the Health Visitors' Service. The size of the City and the number of Health Visitors on the role make it very difficult to set up a planned scheme of Health Education and it had to be left to the staff of Health Visitors and Nurses to do the best they could in clinics and on domiciliary visits. Our figures for Vaccination and Immunisation were not very good and this may have been partially due to our Health Education difficulties.

The appointment of a Deputy Principal Nursing Officer in April 1969 was very much welcomed as this officer has a duty to organise Health Education in schools and clinics. It was subsequently possible for the Deputy Principal Nursing Officer to organise classes and programmes of Health Education, including Parentcraft Classes in Girls Secondary Schools. Efforts were also made to improve the acceptance rate for vaccination and immunisation. It was decided to make two 'Project Awards' to pupils showing special interest in Health Education, and the scheme was successful and well received.

The Authority is a member of the Merseyside Cancer Education Committee. Under it, lectures and demonstrations are arranged for various groups and voluntary bodies in the City. These lectures and demonstrations augment Health Education by other members of the L.A. staff.

Sex education in schools has been referred to the Education Committee.

The Authority makes a grant to the Health Education Council for various services received.

## **5. HOME NURSING SERVICE (Section 25)**

The staff consisted of eight full-time Nurses and four part-time under the Principal Nursing Officer.

It was agreed that in future the District Nurses be encouraged to use their own cars and that only a small nucleus of Mini-Vans be kept.

During 1971, one Nurse used a L.A. vehicle, eleven used their own cars (one mini in reserve).

## **Equipment for Home Nursing**

See section on Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care.



### Attachment Scheme

In accordance with the policy of providing Health Teams to work with General Medical Practitioners, a scheme was promoted to attach all our Home Nurses to Doctors in the City, in the same way as Health Visitors and Midwives have already been attached. Although it was not possible for staff reasons to actuate the scheme in 1971, arrangements were made for its commencement early in 1972.

The Service, which is free of charge to the patients, is given wherever the patient's Doctor advises it. A night rota is also maintained for emergency calls.

During the year the Marie Curie Foundation employed Home Nurses under the control and guidance of the Home Nursing Service. These nurses, specially recruited, were able to give much lengthier periods of attention to patients at home than is possible under the Home Nursing Service.

Details of work done are given on following page.

## 6. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (Section 26)

The following immunisations are now available, and the Local Health Authority is the source for the distribution of vaccines to General Medical Practitioners and Hospitals in its area. The vaccines are available to Doctors. on request at the Health Department:—

- (1) Vaccination against Smallpox
- (2) Vaccination against Poliomyelitis
- (3) Immunisation against Diphtheria
- (4) Immunisation against Whooping Cough
- (5) Immunisation against Tetanus
- (6) B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis
- (7) Vaccination against Measles.
- (8) Vaccination against Rubella (German Measles).

The vaccination and immunisation statistics circulated by the Department of Health showed a poor percentage of acceptances for the City, and various measures and investigations were undertaken to improve our position, as well as Health Education 'propaganda'. It was also arranged with the help of Cheshire County computer that letters be sent out to each parent every time an immunisation procedure became due. The General Medical Practitioners were contacted through the Executive Council.

Part of the difficulty is due, in my opinion, to shortage of nursing staff (Health Visitors, Home Nurses and Clinic Nurses) who are unable to afford the time for the lengthy process of persuasion.

The Health Department is geared now, ready for any sudden demand on its immunisation services which may arise, and a weekly open clinic is held at the Health Department to which the public may come for any type of immunisation officially approved.

# DISTRICT NURSING, 1971

|                           | Medical | Surgical | Injections | T.B. | Maternity | Infectious<br>Diseases,<br>Others | Over 65 | Under 5 | Over 24<br>Visits | Totals |
|---------------------------|---------|----------|------------|------|-----------|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|--------|
| TOTAL No. OF CASES .....  | 474     | 485      | 347        | —    | 2         | —                                 | 768     | 35      | 377               | 1308   |
| TOTAL No. OF VISITS ..... | 14664   | 10189    | 8674       | —    | 13        | —                                 | 22188   | 244     | 27115             | 33540  |

The total number of cases in 1970 was 1,367, and visits 40,342.  
New cases during the year 820. Number of cases at 31st  
December, 1971, 350.

Of the 1,308 cases attended 768 (55%) were over 65, and were  
paid 22,188, 64% of the visits.

## Comparison with previous years

|                                   |       |       |       |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total No. of cases attended ..... | 1968  | 1969  | 1970  | 1971  |
| Total No. of visits .....         | 35077 | 36101 | 40342 | 33540 |

Average number of Nurses full-time—8, Part-time—4.

Average number of hours worked per day—7½ (42 hour week).

511 patients discharged from hospital received 10,049 visits.



### (1) Vaccination against Smallpox

It is now considered better to have babies vaccinated for the first time after their first birthday. This gives time for immunisation against other diseases more native to this country (and therefore more likely to affect the unvaccinated). After vaccination in the second year of life, it is recommended that re-vaccination be done during school life.

In the field of Vaccination and Immunisation, the importance of Health Education cannot be too strongly stressed. It is only by constantly putting before parents the risks and dangers of the unvaccinated (unimmunised) state that we shall keep away from the ever present danger of epidemic.

The figures of the percentage of children vaccinated against Smallpox and immunised do not give us cause for complacency, and it is obvious that a fuller programme of Health Education is urgently necessary.

The Department of Health advised that Smallpox Vaccination be offered periodically to all Health Department staff likely to come into contact with the disease, e.g., Nursing and Dental Staff, Ambulancemen, etc.

At the end of the year 35 staff had been (re)vaccinated.

| Ages                 | Number<br>Vaccinated |      | Number<br>Re-Vaccinated |      |
|----------------------|----------------------|------|-------------------------|------|
|                      | 1970                 | 1971 | 1970                    | 1971 |
| Under one year ..... | 10                   | 1    | —                       | —    |
| 1—2 years .....      | 167                  | 145  | —                       | 1    |
| 2—4 years .....      | 201                  | 166  | 4                       | 3    |
| 4—15 years .....     | 39                   | 19   | 45                      | 21   |
| Over 15 years .....  | 37                   | 29   | 154                     | 112  |
| Totals .....         | 454                  | 360  | 203                     | 137  |

### (2) Immunisation against Diphtheria

Parents are given the option of having this done by their own General Medical Practitioner or of attending the Clinics. Children of pre-school age are immunised at the Infant Welfare Clinics (q.v.), and school children receive their injections and reinforcing doses at the end of the School Medical Inspections.

Records of these and other immunisations are kept in the Department and are transferred on change of address.

The table shows the number of children immunised against Diphtheria during the past 15 years.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

| Age in Years<br>31st Dec. of<br>the corres-<br>ponding year. | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 | Total inocu-<br>lated<br>1957-1971 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------------------------------------|
| 0  | 89   | 157  | 189  | 241  | 193  | 146  | 266  | 219  | 275  | 646  | 664  | 365  | 570  | 693  | 767  | Age<br>under 1 year<br>767         |
| 1  | 345  | 248  | 406  | 480  | 461  | 335  | 409  | 382  | 428  | 67   | 57   | 26   | 59   | 72   | 71   | Age 1-4 years<br><br>2668          |
| 2  | 118  | 70   | 106  | 104  | 94   | 64   | 23   | 57   | 66   | 21   | 68   | 13   | 23   | 12   | 30   |                                    |
| 3  | 66   | 62   | 56   | 66   | 60   | 32   | 27   | 46   | 44   | 19   | 9    | 12   | 17   | 18   | 19   |                                    |
| 4  | 20   | 58   | 45   | 40   | 41   | 35   | 20   | 19   | 35   | 21   | 19   | 23   | 25   | 17   | 46   |                                    |
| 5  | 59   | 129  | 109  | 27   | 85   | 159  | 76   | 18   | 49   | 54   | 29   | 83   | 42   | 46   | 85   |                                    |
| 6  | 100  | 48   | 101  | 77   | 123  | 81   | 41   | 72   | 101  | 23   | 32   | 23   | 61   | 33   | 33   | Age 5-9 yrs<br><br>3788            |
| 7  | 39   | 4    | 30   | 29   | 42   | 39   | 15   | 21   | 7    | 4    | 11   | 9    | 8    | 7    | 6    |                                    |
| 8  | 9    | 6    | 8    | 7    | 16   | 7    | 6    | 3    | 6    | 3    | 2    | ...  | 3    | 3    | 1    |                                    |
| 9  | 7    | 8    | 3    | 6    | 11   | 1    | 2    | ...  | 3    | ...  | 2    | ...  | 1    | 1    | 2    |                                    |
| 10   | 4    | 5    | 3    | 2    | 10   | 1    | 2    | ...  | 2    | ...  | 2    | ...  | 1    | ...  | 2    |                                    |
| 11   | 15   | 9    | 21   | 22   | 23   | 48   | 44   | 46   | 15   | 8    | 5    | 5    | ...  | 1    | ...  | Age 10-14 yrs<br><br>4279          |
| 12   | 12   | 3    | 25   | 19   | 11   | 39   | 18   | 21   | 6    | 5    | 3    | 1    | 1    | ...  | 1    |                                    |
| 13   | 3    | ...  | 4    | 2    | 1    | 1    | 2    | 1    | 2    | ...  | ...  | 1    | ...  | ...  | ...  |                                    |
| 14   | 1    | 1    | ...  | 1    | 2    | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  |                                    |
| 15<br>and over   | ...  | ...  | ...  | ...  | 2    | 1    | ...  | 1    | 2    | ...  | 1    | 2    | ...  | ...  | 1    |                                    |
| Primary  | 887  | 808  | 1106 | 1123 | 1175 | 989  | 951  | 906  | 1041 | 871  | 904  | 563  | 811  | 903  | 1064 | Total<br>Primary<br>14102          |
| Re-Inforcing   | 1090 | 1030 | 1084 | 1111 | 1365 | 1216 | 1219 | 1108 | 1701 | 1300 | 1521 | 831  | 994  | 978  | 972  | Total<br>Re-inforcing<br>17520     |
| Total each<br>Year   | 1977 | 1838 | 2190 | 2234 | 2540 | 2205 | 2170 | 2014 | 2742 | 2171 | 2425 | 1394 | 1805 | 1881 | 2036 | GRAND<br>TOTAL<br>31622            |

### (3) Immunisation against Whooping Cough

This is available on request from the patient's own Doctor or at the Infant Welfare Clinics, and is usually—though not necessarily—given in conjunction with Diphtheria immunisation. Three injections are necessary.

The following table shows numbers who have completed a primary course of Whooping Cough vaccine (singly or in combination), during the year:—

| Age at Date of Final Injection |           |                          |       |
|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|
| 0—4 years                      | 5—9 years | Others<br>under 16 years | Total |
| 864                            | 10        | —                        | 874   |

### (4) B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

Since 1961, B.C.G. Vaccination has been available to all pupils of 13 years and upwards, and also, where necessary, to those over ten years old.

All Mantoux Positive cases were offered follow-up facilities. By co-operation with the Chest Physicians, these cases were examined and X-Rayed at the Chest Clinic to ascertain the cause of the positive reaction. These cases were kept under observation, when necessary, at the Chest Clinic.

The use of freeze-dried vaccine made the supply of B.C.G. Vaccine much easier (as it became unnecessary to order the vaccine several weeks in advance).

|  |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|
| No. of Children, Young Persons and Students tested         | ... | ... | 690 |
| No. of these Mantoux Positive                              | ... | ... | 95  |
| No. of these Mantoux Negative and given B.C.G. Vaccination | ... | ... | 589 |
| No. absent for reading                                     | ... | ... | 6   |

### (5) Anti-Tetanus Immunisation

The combination of a vaccine against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus (lock jaw) has proved beneficial and, in spite of the relatively few cases of Tetanus the use of this 'triple Antigen' has a vogue.

Certainly in no disease more than in Tetanus is prevention better than cure—especially as the cure of established Tetanus is extremely chancy.

The Triple Antigen is available to Doctors in the City on request or may be given at the Child Care Centres. The purpose of the combination is to avoid injections over and above those already necessary for protection against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

Arrangements were in force with the Casualty Department of the Royal Infirmary whereby all city patients receiving Anti-Tetanic Serum were notified to the Health Department, and were told of the necessity to be immunised against Tetanus. A Clinic was started and the patients invited to attend for active Immunisation (as contrasted to the passive immunity received on the injection of A.T.S. at Hospital). The reason for this necessity is the danger of Anaphylaxis occurring on second injections

once A.T.S. has been given. By being actively immunised, the necessity for A.T.S. does not arise, and therefore there is no risk of incurring Anaphylaxis. The active immunity against Tetanus must, of course, be kept up to strength by yearly booster injections.

#### (6) Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The fortunate absence of outbreaks of Poliomyelitis is reflected in the steady decline in the numbers applying for vaccination. This is still available to infants, children, expectant mothers and adults up to 40 years of age, but it is regrettable that public reaction is apparently stimulated only when cases of Poliomyelitis are reported.

In practice, the oral vaccine has virtually replaced the Salk (injected) vaccine, which is now very rarely requested.

The table shows numbers of doses administered during the year and totals:—

|  | TOTALS |        |       |        |        |       |
|--|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|
|  | (1969) | (1970) | 1971  | (1969) | (1970) | 1971  |
| Third dose .....                                 | 708    | 743    | 809   | 25792  | 26535  | 27344 |
| Second dose .....                                | 720    | 755    | 930   | 12596  | 13351  | 14281 |
| First dose .....                                 | 744    | 824    | 1009  | 12969  | 13783  | 14792 |
| Fourth dose, Children,<br>five to 12 years ..... | 410    | 412    | 384   | 9274   | 9686   | 10070 |
| Fourth dose, other ...                           | 821    | 660    | 702   | 5827   | 6487   | 7189  |
|  | <hr/>  | <hr/>  | <hr/> | <hr/>  | <hr/>  | <hr/> |
|  | 3403   | 3384   | 3834  | 66458  | 69842  | 73676 |
|  | <hr/>  | <hr/>  | <hr/> | <hr/>  | <hr/>  | <hr/> |

The Department of Health now requires the keeping of Vaccination and Immunisation records only in respect of children under the age of 16, who have completed a Primary Course or received a Reinforcing dose of vaccine.

No cases of Poliomyelitis have occurred in the City since 1965 (one only) and no deaths since one in 1962.

#### (7) Vaccination against Measles

In May 1968, Vaccination against Measles was introduced, but did not prove very popular, although it consisted of a single injection.

| 0—4 years | 5—9 years | 10—16 years | Total |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------|
| 439       | 36        | 7           | 482   |

#### (8) Vaccination against Rubella (German Measles)

Because of the very high risk of foetal abnormalities following Rubella in the mother during early pregnancy, a scheme for the immunisation of all girls aged 11 to 14 years was started, priority being given to 13 year old



girls. The scheme was implemented in the schools but all General Medical Practitioners were invited to participate.

Immunisation consists of a single injection, but there are certain contraindications. For example, vaccination against Rubella must not be undertaken during pregnancy: care must be taken to ensure that the patient does not become pregnant within at least two months after immunisation—if she does, termination may seriously be considered. Routine vaccination of women of childbearing age is not recommended. A previous history of German Measles is discounted because of the difficulty of being accurate and sure of the attack.

Response was excellent, there being very few refusals, and 517 pupils received immunisation.

### Yellow Fever

Immunisation facilities are available in Liverpool and Manchester at the respective Health Departments.

### Immunisation Schedule

At the present time the following is a schedule of immunisations which a child should receive to be fully protected as far as schemes now allow:—

| Recommended age                   | Vaccination   | Recommended Interval         |
|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Up to 6 weeks                  | B.C.G. (Tuberculosis)<br>(at Hospital)                |                              |
| 2. 6 months                       | Diphtheria<br>Whooping Cough<br>Tetanus<br>Oral Polio | Triple Vaccine               |
| 3. 8 months                       | Diphtheria<br>Whooping Cough<br>Tetanus<br>Oral Polio | 6—8 weeks<br>Triple Vaccine  |
| 4. 14 months                      | Diphtheria<br>Whooping Cough<br>Tetanus<br>Oral Polio | 5—6 months<br>Triple Vaccine |
| 5. 15 months                      | Measles   | At least 4 weeks after 4     |
| 6. 4½—5 years or at school entry  | Diphtheria<br>Tetanus<br>Oral Polio                   | Booster Doses                |
| 7. Over 12 years                  | B.C.G. (Tuberculosis)<br>if not previously done       |                              |
| 8. 13—14 years                    | Rubella (Females only)                                | At least 4 weeks after 7     |
| 9. 15—19 years, on leaving School | Oral Polio<br>Tetanus                                 | Booster Doses                |

### **Purchase of Vaccines**

At present only Smallpox Vaccine, B.C.G., and Poliomyelitis Vaccine are issued free to Local Authorities. They must purchase Measles, Rubella, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus Vaccines.

### **Influenza**

After a serious outbreak of influenza at Kinderley House (Welfare Accommodation) when a number of deaths were thought to be due to the outbreak, it was decided to offer vaccination against influenza to the residents in Part III accommodation in the winter months. The Health Department staff was also offered immunisation, but there was not a great deal of enthusiasm for this, presumably because of the side effects of some of the vaccines used.

## **7. THE AMBULANCE SERVICE (Section 27)**

The City Ambulance Service covers an area of four miles into Flintshire from Chester, and also, by agreement, a radius of 15 miles into Cheshire County. The County Services have been developed so that City vehicles are rarely called upon to cover the whole area specified—the majority of this work is in the vicinity of the City. Mutual aid continues at a satisfactory level.

### **New Ambulance Depot**

The present depot in Tramway Street was becoming too small to house the vehicles and staff of this expanding service, and it was decided to build a new depot. Several sites were under active consideration, including the new West Cheshire Hospital site (but this had to be abandoned because, partly, of lack of access). A site near the new Fire Station was approved.

### **Station and Authority Committee**

It was decided to appoint a Station and Authority Committee consisting of six members of the Health Committee and five Ambulance Drivers.

The functions of this Committee were suggested in the McCarthy Report, but some discussion at national level was necessary to reach agreement upon this.

A National Ambulancemen's Council was established by the National Joint Council after the McCarthy report. Its function was to settle basic rates and supplementary payments. We shall see in the 1972 report whether this function has been fulfilled.

### **Staff**

The staff on the establishment at the end of the year comprised Ambulance Officer, Deputy Ambulance Officer, Clerk/Telephonist, four Senior Drivers and 18 Driver/Attendants. During 'after office hours' and at week-ends and Bank Holidays, the four Senior Drivers observed a rota whereby the Ambulance Station was not closed down at all.

The Rota of duties was examined and amended to provide better cover 'after hours' and during peak traffic periods. It was possible, because of



the great amount of Hospital Out Patient work, to employ two staff as drivers only on regular day duty.

### Training

Training was provided at Wrenbury Hall; two Ambulancemen had two weeks courses, and two had to take the six weeks course.

One Driver/Attendant was sent on the Ambulance Instructors course but failed to qualify as an Instructor.

Training would be required for five men on a short (two weeks) course in 1972/3.

### Vehicles

The complement of nine vehicles was maintained, the latest addition during the year being a 12—14 seater, sitting vehicle, to be used for Hospital day cases.

The vehicles were serviced mainly at a local garage. Agreement was being sought for maintenance of the vehicles at the Fire Service Depot.

It is sincerely hoped when the new Depot is built, that there will be space for servicing and repairing the vehicles as well as a petrol pump.

### Mileage and Patients Carried

| Year | Total No. of<br>Patients Carried | Total Mileage | Miles run for<br>Other Ambulance<br>Authorities |
|------|----------------------------------|---------------|---|
| 1963 | 25,459                           | 105,232       | 4,939   |
| 1964 | 27,857                           | 107,934       | 4,484   |
| 1965 | 28,194                           | 110,452       | 4,501   |
| 1966 | 25,026                           | 107,936       | 2,228   |
| 1967 | 24,711                           | 108,325       | 5,348   |
| 1968 | 27,220                           | 125,050       | 6,795   |
| 1969 | 32,100                           | 130,602       | 7,700   |
| 1970 | 35,393                           | 136,088       | 10,048  |
| 1971 | 37,846                           | 132,810       | 11,785  |

### Emergency Conveyance of Patients by Air

No cases occurred in 1971.

### Conveyance of Patients by Rail

As more railway coaches become Pullman type, there is a greater and greater difficulty in getting compartments reserved for stretcher cases and it was thought that British Rail should be pressed to provide suitable compartment coaches at strategic points in the country, otherwise only First Class Compartments were available. The Department of Health has taken this matter up with British Rail.

Twenty one patients, of whom 16 were provided with rail vouchers were conveyed a total mileage by Rail of 2,241.

## Radio Telephones

The R/T equipment of the vehicles was giving some trouble, having been in service for some years. It became necessary to re-equip the station and vehicles with modern apparatus which would fit in with the recommended type, frequency and wave lengths which were being allocated to ambulance authorities.

Temporary equipment had to be installed before the permanent sets were ready.

## Emergency Services

As well as routine admissions, discharges and Hospital outpatients, Day-Hospital Psychiatric Cases, week-end leave and welfare classes, inter-hospital transfers, the City Ambulance Service caters for an Emergency Surgical Team, an Emergency Midwifery Team for domiciliary confinements over a large area, and, of course, accidents on the road.

| Year | Total Number of<br>Patients conveyed | Number of<br>Patients<br>conveyed with<br>Police Escort |
|------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1964 | 32                                   | 7   |
| 1965 | 40                                   | 11  |
| 1966 | 64                                   | 13  |
| 1967 | 105                                  | 14  |
| 1968 | 109                                  | 23  |
| 1969 | 90                                   | 17  |
| 1970 | 74                                   | 21  |
| 1971 | 85                                   | 25  |

## Poisoning Cases

|                                 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 |
|---------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Overdose cases dealt with ..... | 75   | 118  | 115  |

Discussions with the Hospital Authority were held to try to minimise the routine inter-hospital transfers during the hours when the service was less fully manned. While the ideal of '24 hours notice' from the hospitals could not be maintained—the hospitals could be called upon for emergency accommodation at any time—the hospital and local authority sought to meet each other's difficulties and to give the best service possible. It is neither practicable nor economic for a local authority service to be run to cope with all scales of emergency, however great: there must be a service which, while adequate to cope with the average work, will be capable also of dealing with some degree of emergencies.

# AMBULANCE SERVICE

Summary of work for year ended 31st March, 1972

| L.A.             | JOURNEYS |      |       |       | PATIENTS CARRIED |     |       |          |       |       |            |    |       |       | MILEAGE |       |             |       |        |
|------------------|----------|------|-------|-------|------------------|-----|-------|----------|-------|-------|------------|----|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------------|-------|--------|
|                  |          |      |       | Total | *STRETCHER       |     |       | *SITTING |       |       | ACC. & EM. |    |       |       | A       | S     | Other Total |       |        |
|                  | A        | S    | Other |       | A                | S   | Total | A        | S     | Total | A          | S  | Total | Other |         |       |             | Total |        |
| City .....       | 4510     | 1537 | —     | 6047  | 4553             | 104 | 4657  | 14398    | 16058 | 30456 | 2084       | 69 | 2153  | —     | 35113   | 73530 | 47495       | —     | 121025 |
| Cheshire .....   | 401      | 27   | —     | 428   | 700              | 8   | 708   | 915      | 1001  | 1916  | 649        | 16 | 665   | —     | 2624    | 7782  | 2913        | —     | 10695  |
| Flintshire ..... | 48       | 1    | —     | 49    | 70               | 2   | 72    | 18       | 9     | 27    | 82         | 4  | 86    | —     | 99      | 773   | 56          | —     | 829    |
| Others .....     | 4        | 3    | —     | 7     | 4                | —   | 4     | 3        | 3     | 6     | —          | —  | —     | —     | 10      | 190   | 71          | —     | 261    |
| TOTALS .....     | 4963     | 1568 | —     | 6531  | 5327             | 114 | 5441  | 15334    | 17071 | 32405 | 2815       | 89 | 2904  | —     | 37846   | 82275 | 50535       | —     | 132810 |

Note.—\*Acc. and Em. details are part of and are included in 'Stretcher and Sitting' details.

A—Ambulance S—Sitting Case

## 8. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

### (Section 28)

#### (i) Tuberculosis

Close liaison between the Chest Clinic and the Health Department is maintained. One Health Visitor is appointed to attend at the Clinic and to visit tuberculosis patients in their homes.

#### Contact Scheme (City residents attending Chest Clinic):

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| No. Skin Tested ... ..                         | 47  |
| No. found Positive ... ..                      | —   |
| No. found Negative ... ..                      | 47  |
| No. Vaccinated ... ..                          | 47  |
| No. of New Contacts examined ... ..            | 28  |
| No. of these found to have Tuberculosis ... .. | —   |
| No. of Infants Vaccinated ... ..               | 845 |

**Free Milk.** The scales of application of the Free Milk Scheme were amended to conform to National Assistance Standards. Each individual case is visited by the Tuberculosis Visitor.

In some cases the supply of free milk was augmented by the issue of free eggs.

At the end of 1971 five patients were receiving help from the Local Authority under the scheme.

#### Tuberculosis Colony

One Tuberculosis patient is maintained at the Sherwood Village Settlement, Nottingham.

#### Protection of Children against Tuberculosis

The B.C.G. Scheme for vaccination of school children and students which was started in 1955 was continued, vaccination being done in the schools during the Autumn Term (for statistics see Vaccination and Immunisation).

The contact scheme was maintained by the staff of the Chest Clinic at the City Hospital throughout the year (figures above).

The Ministry of Health Circular on this subject recommended the X-Ray every three years of all those whose work brought them into close contact with groups of children. Thus School Staff, Children's Homes, Nursery Groups, Private Schools and many other Corporation staff are affected. Use is made of the Mass Radiography Unit of the Regional Hospital Board.

The routine testing at an early age of all babies born in the City was abandoned because of the great decline in the incidence of Tuberculosis.

### Mass X-Ray Service

The Mass Radiography Service was to be reduced, having fulfilled its chief objective in the early discovery of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

At the earlier part of the year, the Mobile Unit of Liverpool Regional Hospital Board visited Chester once in February and twice in March.

The reduction in services meant that Pre-employment X-Rays had to be referred to Hospital and could be charged for. Radiologists, however, would waive charges for staff of Health, Welfare, Education and Children's Departments of L.A.'s where the aim was to prevent the spread of Phthisis by people who were in close contact with groups of children.

### (ii) Blind Persons

The Chester Blind Welfare Society give the following data:—

Numbers on Register at end of year:—

|                          | M. | F.  | TOTAL |
|--------------------------|----|-----|-------|
| Blind ... ..             | 45 | 75  | 120   |
| Partially Sighted ... .. | 25 | 39  | 64    |
|                          | 70 | 114 | 184   |

Two Blind persons were under the age of 16, being educated in a Special School. Twenty-three were in the employable age groups 16—59, one was in the Workshops for the Blind, and one at home receiving further education; five employed under ordinary conditions, and four awaiting employment; twelve were not available for or capable of work.

On the register of Partially Sighted, three were children: one attending a Special School, one in an Ordinary School, one receiving Home Tuition, four were employed, four available for employment and the remainder over pension age.

### B.—Ophthalmia Neonatorum

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| (i) Total number of cases notified during the year ... .. | 1   |
| (ii) Number of cases in which :—                          |     |
| a. Vision lost ... ..                                     | Nil |
| b. Vision impaired ... ..                                 | Nil |
| c. Treatment continuing at end of year ... ..             | Nil |

### (iii) Epileptics and Spastics

Epileptic and Spastic children of school age are dealt with under the Education Acts.

The Social Services Committee provides for the maintenance of three adult epileptics in colonies. Twelve adult spastics are on the register, of whom ten attend the Spastics Centre at Blacon.



## (iv) Illness Generally—Prevention and Care

**Nursing Homes**

There are no Nursing Homes registered in Chester.

**Laundry Service**

The provision of Incontinence Pads has now almost entirely dispensed with the necessity for the provision of the usual Laundry facilities. When necessary the pads are supplied, free of charge, to patients nursed at home.

**Chiropody Service**

This service was instituted in 1961 in order to provide for persons who were housebound and therefore unable to receive treatment through the Welfare Department. Despite increased costs in January, 1967, January 1969 and April 1970, the patient's contribution was maintained at 2/6d. per treatment.

|                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| No. of Cases treated | 246  |
| No. of Treatments    | 1191 |

The charges to patients under the Health Department Scheme were reviewed because of the increased charges by the Chiropodists.

**Nursing Equipment on Loan or Hire**

Nursing equipment for the use of patients being nursed at home is available from the Local Health Authority as well as from the British Red Cross Society and (for elderly patients) from the Welfare Department.

The policy has been gradually to expand the amount of equipment available from the Health Department in accordance with the demand. Certain items, like Ripple Beds, are relatively new and liable to damage.

It was resolved to make no charge for the loan of Nursing Equipment after October 1970: items would be checked every quarter. The administrative costs of collecting small sums for the hire of minor items of equipment were thought to be greater than the amount recovered.

The number of articles on loan in 1971 was 258.

**Cancer Education**

The City Authority subscribed to the Merseyside Cancer Education Committee, and lectures were given in Chester during the year.

## (v) Cervical Cytology

|            | No. Examined | Positive | Negative |
|------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| 1966 ..... | 243          | —        | 243      |
| 1967 ..... | 182          | 1        | 181      |
| 1968 ..... | 121          | —        | 121      |
| 1969 ..... | 192          | 1        | 191      |
| 1970 ..... | 261          | 1        | 260      |
| 1971 ..... | 164          | 1        | 163      |

Specimens are obtained and examined at the R.H.B. Laboratory at the Royal Infirmary. Patients and their Doctors are notified of results by this Department.

The clinic which commenced in May 1966, was held at Blacon Clinic or at St. Martin's House, when sufficient requests were received. Attendance was by appointment.

### Convalescence

The Local Authority in certain instances provides for convalescence of persons not otherwise eligible under the National Health Act.

## 9. HOME HELPS (Section 29)

As this service was passed over to the Social Services Department on 3rd April, 1971, a brief statistical report to cover the period from 1st January, to 3rd April follows:—

|   | Cases     | Hours Worked              |
|---|-----------|---------------------------|
| (a) Chronic Sick and Tuberculosis ..... | 24        | 1178 $\frac{3}{4}$        |
| (b) Mentally Disordered .....           | 7         | 189                       |
| (c) Maternity .....                     | 1         | 6                         |
| (d) Aged and Infirm .....               | 301       | 15761                     |
| (e) Others .....                        | 22        | 1047 $\frac{3}{4}$        |
|   | <hr/> 355 | <hr/> 18182 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

Of a total of 355 cases, 296 (82%) were aged 65 or over and they received 15,781 hours help of a total of 18,182 (87%).

## 10. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

### Mental Health Services, 1971

The Senior Mental Welfare Officer reports:—

This report only covers the first three months of the year, as on the 1st April, the Mental Health Department was transferred into the new Social Services Department.

#### Staff

Senior Mental Welfare Officer

Deputy Senior Mental Welfare Officer

Two Mental Welfare Officers (one on secondment to the Millbank College of Commerce, Liverpool, on the two year social work course.

#### Duties

The Mental Welfare Department is responsible for the care of the mentally ill, mentally disordered and mentally handicapped adults and

children in the community, i.e. supervision, arranging out-patient appointments, consultations, admissions to and discharges from hospital, providing after-care in conjunction with Consultants, General Practitioners and Voluntary and Statutory bodies in the community, also the efficient running (including transport) of the Dee Banks School and Dee Banks Adult Training Centre.

### **Case Load and Trend**

If the figures of the first quarter are an indication of the trend for the remainder of the year, it augurs well as it already shows a decrease of approximately 40% in the admission rate as compared to the figure of the first quarter of last year. This is of course as it should be as the aim of Mental Welfare is of caring for people in the community and not hospitalisation.

### **Hospitals**

Psychiatric out-patient clinics are now held each week-day at the Royal Infirmary, West Cheshire and Moston Hospital. There are Day Hospitals at the West Cheshire and Moston Hospitals which are invaluable especially for the day care of elderly patients. There are also Adolescent, Alcoholic and Drug Addiction Units at Moston.

### **Residential Accommodation for the Mentally Ill**

The Richmond Fellowship runs a Hostel at Tower House, Kilmorey Park, Chester, for 22 cases (11 male, 11 female) for rehabilitation. Admission for Chester cases is on the recommendations of the Consultant Psychiatrist and is normally for a period of six months. The majority of the costs incurred is contributed by the local authority. In the first quarter of this year no applications were received for admission to the home.

### **Blacon Community Home**

This home was established by the Health Committee to accommodate long stay patients from the West Cheshire Hospital and has now been opened for three months. There are five male patients in residence, all of whom are doing extremely well. Three are in full-time employment and the remaining two men are attending the Industrial Therapy unit at the West Cheshire Hospital and it is hoped that it will not be too long before they are in full-time employment.

Events so far conclusively prove that this venture is a huge success, especially when you consider that these five patients spent periods of time in the West Cheshire Hospital varying from five to twenty years.

### **Residential Accommodation for Mentally Handicapped**

Hospital care is provided by the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board for cases requiring constant nursing care or attention. In the first quarter of this year there were no cases for admission for long term care.

## Short Term Care

There were no applications for short term care in the first quarter of the year, but of course most of these applications occur during the summer months when parents of the mentally handicapped are on holiday, but I would, once again emphasise the importance of early application for short term care by parents wanting to utilise this service.

## Guardianship

There were no patients under guardianship in Chester.

## Day Care for the Mentally Handicapped

At Dee Banks there are two establishments, a school for the juniors and a training centre for the adults. The school has now been transferred to the Education Department, and is administered by the Chief Education Officer, but the social work will still be carried on by the social workers of the Social Services Department.

The Adult Training Centre, as from 1st April, becomes the responsibility of the Social Services Department.

The following table shows the work performed by the Mental Health Service during the first three months of the year.

|  | Mentally Ill |    |       | Mentally Handicapped |    |       |
|--|--------------|----|-------|----------------------|----|-------|
|  | M.           | F. | Total | M.                   | F. | Total |
| Informal Admissions .....                                  | 8            | 7  | 15    | —                    | —  | —     |
| Emergency Admissions (Sec. 29,<br>M.H.A.)                  | —            | 4  | 4     | —                    | —  | —     |
| Observation Admissions (Sec. 25)                           | 1            | —  | 1     | —                    | —  | —     |
| Treatment Admissions (Sec. 26)                             | —            | —  | —     | —                    | —  | —     |
| Admissions through Courts and<br>Police (Sec. 60, 65, 136) | 2            | —  | 2     | —                    | —  | —     |
| Reclassification in Hospital—                              |              |    |       |                      |    |       |
| (Sec. 25) .....  | —            | 1  | 1     | —                    | —  | —     |
| (Sec. 26) .....  | —            | 1  | 1     | —                    | —  | —     |
| No Action Cases .....                                      | 1            | —  | 1     | —                    | —  | —     |
| Total No. of Cases .....                                   | 12           | 13 | 25    | —                    | —  | —     |

D. B. Davies



## **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948**

No cases were compulsorily removed during the year.

### **MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

Medical Examinations for other Departments of the Corporation are made by the Assistant Medical Officers of Health, and at the time of writing, no charge is made on these Departments:—

#### **(1) Residential Nurseries**

The Medical Officers carried out routine examinations of the children on admission to the Children's Nurseries, on discharge and other special occasions.

#### **(2) Superannuation Examinations**

Staff of all Corporation Departments were examined by the Medical Officers for the purpose of determining their fitness for (a) Employment, (b) Entry into the various Sickness Pay Schemes, (c) Entry into the Corporation Superannuation Scheme.

In the case of Staff associated with children, the examinations have included X-Ray of chest (usually done at the Mass Radiography Unit) and for teachers in the Education Department, full reports on Forms 4 R.T.C. and 28 R.Q. were made.

The number of examinations in the year was 260 plus 323 declarations of health and for comparison with previous years:—

**1961: 331 1962: 456 1963: 395 1964: 438 1965: 523 1966: 560 1967: 547 1968: 472 plus 170 Health declarations. 1969: 325 plus 212 Health declarations. 1970: 290 plus 382 Health declarations.**

#### **(3) Examination of Transport Staff**

It was decided that medical examinations for Public Service Vehicle Licences should be carried out by the Assistant Medical Officers of Health at the same time as they do the superannuation examinations, and that they should give the medical certificate without charge to the candidate or to the Transport Department.

#### **(4) Examinations for Heavy Goods Vehicle Licences**

Throughout 1971, we suffered severely from a shortage of Medical Officers and part of our statutory duties of Medical Inspection, Vaccination against Tuberculosis, etc., had to be deferred because of this. (The number of school pupils requiring examination by the School Medical Officers increased greatly and there was unavoidable delay in these examinations).

Small wonder, then, that we were unable to carry out examination of Corporation staff for fitness to drive Heavy Goods Vehicles. These examinations necessitated knowledge of the person's medical history (often only available from their General Medical Practitioner) and X-ray examinations.

The regulations also appear to make the appointment of one Doctor necessary for Fire Brigade examinations, and this duty also could not be undertaken because of shortage of Medical Officers.



It is hoped, when the new reorganised National Health Service has 'settled in', that sufficient medical staff will be attracted to this type of work.

### CREMATION REFEREES

On the opening of the City Crematorium at Blacon, in November, 1965, the Medical Officer of Health and Deputy undertook the duties of Cremation Referee and Deputy.

|                               | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Certificates completed ... .. | 1136 | 1212 | 1308 | 1398 |

### SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

There have been no construction works carried out during 1971, to the Sealand Road Sewage Works which at the present time is discharging a satisfactory effluent to the River Dee.

The main alteration in the treatment of sewage during 1971 has been the abandonment of the Bumpers Lane Sewage Works, which produced a very unsatisfactory effluent, and the diversion of the flow to the Sealand Road Works. This work was carried out as part of the Saltney III Main Drainage Scheme, which also provided new pumping plant in the Lache and Saltney areas.

The foul drainage from the village of Dodleston has been connected to the Corporation's drainage system and very shortly the flow from the Hawarden Rural District Council areas of East Saltney and Broughton will be received.

### WATER SUPPLY

The supply which is drawn from the River Dee, is provided by the Chester Waterworks Company, and is examined every two weeks for bacterial content, and every month chemically as shown on page 43.

**Bacteriological Sampling** shows the usual contamination of the river, but the samples taken at the filters and in the town have always been free of significant contamination.

Plumbo solvency has remained at a low level with the pH averaging 7.0.

The number of dwelling houses and number of population supplied from public mains was:—

|                        | Supplied direct<br>to Houses | By<br>Standpipe |
|------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Houses supplied .....  | 21,350                       | 1               |
| Persons supplied ..... | 62,700                       | 2               |

### Fluoridation

The only method of fluoridation of the public water supply approved by the Minister was under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act 1946 (Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care). Other forms of fluoridation,

e.g. by tablets or milk treatment, were not so satisfactory and the cheapest and most effective method was by treating the public supply.

The Council, again in September, resolved that no further action be taken.

### **Swimming Baths**

Twenty samples taken from the Public Baths were found to be satisfactory.

## **REORGANISATION OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE**

We are faced with the superhuman task of reorganising both Local Government and the National Health Service together by 1st April, 1974. There is bound to be much confusion with so much change.

In the Health Service, the cleavage between administrative and clinical duties will, for a time, be accentuated, but it is hoped that career prospects in the new Service—whether clinical or administrative—will attract sufficient of the right kind of professional staff.

The Health Committee in considering the Health Services Consultative Document expressed a desire for more democratic representation.

In preparation for reorganisation, administrative Medical Officers, Nursing Staff and Senior Clerks were to attend special courses. In accordance with the Mayston Report on the Management Structure of L.H.A. Nursing Services, the post of Principal Nursing Officer became Director of Nursing Services in the City, and that of Deputy became Area Nursing Officer, with corresponding responsibilities—these posts carried first and second line administrative duties. Advice was obtained from the Department of Health as to the recommended administrative structure in the Authority's Nursing Services.

## WATER

The City water supply is drawn from the River Dee and supplied by the Chester Waterworks Company. The water is filtered and chlorinated at the Company's works at Boughton. The supply was adequate in quantity and no restrictions were imposed.

The standard of purity and adequacy of supply have been maintained during the year, the water being graded 'Class I'.

Bacteriological examinations of the water supply including water from various filter beds have been carried out twice a month. In addition, chemical analyses of water from a consumer's tap have been carried out by the Public Analyst every month, and the following table gives the result of these analyses, which are shown in parts per million of water.

### CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF CITY WATER SUPPLY

| Parts per Million   | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
|---|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| Total Solids  | 156  | 170  | 190  | 264  | 268 | 180  | 277  | 188  | 151   | 238  | 138  | 251  |
| Nitrogen as Free and Saline Ammonia                           | 0.05 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.05 | —   | —    | —    | —    | —     | —    | —    | —    |
| Nitrogen as Albuminoid Ammonia                                | —    | —    | 0.01 | —    | —   | —    | —    | —    | —     | —    | —    | —    |
| Nitrogen as Nitrites  | —    | —    | vst  | —    | ST  | ST   | ST   | ST   | ST    | ST   | ST   | ST   |
| Nitrogen as Nitrates  | 0.9  | 1.2  | 2.4  | 1.6  | 2.0 | 1.8  | 1.0  | 1.1  | 0.5   | 0.5  | 0.5  | 0.5  |
| Chlorides as Cl.  | 24   | 21   | 37   | 40   | 39  | 25   | 42   | 26   | 22    | 21   | 26   | 25   |
| Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in four hours at 27 deg. C. | 0.8  | 0.8  | 0.3  | 0.6  | 0.9 | 0.6  | 0.6  | 0.9  | 1.2   | 1.1  | 1.0  | 1.1  |
| Total Hardness  | 79   | 71   | 125  | 138  | 144 | 96   | 135  | 92   | 84    | 105  | 83   | 112  |
| Temporary Hardness  | 38   | 38   | 72   | 82   | 92  | 48   | 80   | 48   | 52    | 60   | 40   | 56   |
| Permanent Hardness  | 41   | 33   | 53   | 56   | 52  | 48   | 55   | 44   | 32    | 45   | 43   | 56   |
| Alkalinity  | 38   | 38   | 72   | 82   | 92  | 48   | 80   | 48   | 52    | 60   | 40   | 56   |
| Free Chlorine   | —    | —    | —    | —    | —   | 0.1  | —    | —    | —     | —    | —    | —    |
| Poisonous Metals  | —    | —    | —    | —    | —   | —    | —    | —    | —     | —    | —    | —    |
| Potassium as K  | 2.7  | 2.2  | 3.4  | 2.7  | 3.4 | 3.3  | 2.9  | 3.4  | 1.8   | 2.1  | 2.3  | 2.8  |
| Anionic Synthetic Detergents                                  | —    | —    | —    | —    | —   | —    | —    | —    | —     | —    | —    | —    |
| Cyanides and Thiocyanates                                     | —    | —    | —    | —    | —   | —    | —    | —    | —     | —    | —    | —    |
| Manganese as Mn.  | —    | —    | —    | —    | —   | —    | —    | —    | —     | —    | —    | —    |
| Free Carbon Dioxide   | 12   | 15   | 15   | 10   | 10  | 22   | 18   | 22   | 18    | 19   | 15   | 14   |
| Reaction, pH.   | 6.85 | 6.8  | 7.2  | 7.35 | 7.4 | 7.0  | 6.9  | 7.0  | 6.8   | 6.8  | 6.8  | 7.0  |

ST—Slight Trace  
vst—Very Slight Trace

# Chief Public Health Inspector's Report 1971

## STAFF

Chief Public Health Inspector  
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector  
Four Senior Public Health Inspectors:  
    One—Housing  
    Two—Food Hygiene  
    One—Offices, Shops, Factories, etc.  
    Two Public Health Inspectors  
One Senior Authorised Meat Inspector  
One Authorised Meat Inspector  
Four Public Health Operatives

## INSPECTION OF AREA

### ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

|                                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Complaints received             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 635  |
| Visits in respect of Complaints | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2092 |

### VISITS TO PREMISES

|  |     |     |     |     |     |     | <b>Number<br/>of Visits</b> |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------------------|
| Houses—under the Public Health Acts          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1241                        |
| Houses in and adjoining Clearance Areas      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 127                         |
| Individual Unfit Houses                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14                          |
| House Improvement—Qualification Certificates | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 75                          |
| Houses in Proposed Improvement Areas         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 202                         |
| Houses in Multiple Occupation                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 179                         |
| Factories                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 110                         |
| Offices, Shops and Railway Premises          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 407                         |
| Clean Air                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 67                          |
| Noise Abatement                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 86                          |
| Animal Boarding Establishments               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4                           |
| Pet Animal Shops                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14                          |
| Brooks and Streams                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 159                         |
| Open Ground and Common Passages              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 315                         |
| Schools                                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13                          |
| Swimming Baths                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6                           |
| Caravans                                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16                          |
| Drainage Work—Investigation and Supervision  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 648                         |
| Rodent Control                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1315                        |
| Pest Control                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2053                        |

## FOOD HYGIENE

### Inspections of:—

|                                       |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Bakehouses                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11  |
| Butchers' Premises and Meat Depots    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 40  |
| Bread and Cake Shops                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 33  |
| Canteens                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9   |
| Dairies, Milk Dealers' Premises, etc. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 72  |
| Fishmongers                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17  |
| Fish and Chip Shops                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11  |
| Food Stalls and Vehicles              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 150 |
| General Provision Shops               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 158 |
| Greengrocers                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 45  |
| Hotels (Catering)                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17  |
| Licensed Premises                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 187 |
| Restaurants and Cafes                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 158 |
| Sweets and Ice Cream Premises         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 19  |
| Other Food Premises                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 69  |
| Food Inspection Visits                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 188 |

## ADMINISTRATION

|                        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Number of letters sent | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2454 |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|

### Public Health Act, 1936

|                                      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Number of Preliminary Notices served | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30 |
| Number of Statutory Notices served   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3  |

### Legal Proceedings

Legal proceedings were instituted in the Magistrates' Court in five cases as detailed later.

## HOUSING

With the virtual completion of a 15 year programme of slum clearance, attention has been directed to General Improvement Areas under the Housing Act, 1969.

Detailed surveys of proposed Improvement Areas in Hoole were carried out and a general survey of the older houses in the City was in progress at the end of 1971.

### Individual Unfit Houses

During 1971 a Closing Order under Section 17 Housing Act, 1957, was made on a house in multiple occupation on which the owner had broken a previous undertaking not to use it for human habitation.

In the case of another house the undertaking previously given under Section 16 Housing Act, 1957 was cancelled when the house was made fit for habitation.

During 1971, Compulsory Purchase Orders by the City Council were confirmed in respect of three semi-derelict houses which had each been empty for several years, with a view to bringing them back into use as dwelling houses.



In the case of a house subject to a Demolition Order, in which the tenant, who owned suitable alternative accommodation, had failed to comply with a notice to quit, an order for possession was granted in the Magistrates' Court under Section 22, Housing Act, 1957.

### Houses in Multiple Occupation

Ten houses in respect of which directions were in operation under Section 19, Housing Act, 1961, were inspected regularly throughout the year. The directions are made to limit the number of persons occupying houses dependant upon the facilities provided.

In one house, part of which was subject to a Direction, the ownership and the parts of the house used in multiple occupation changed, and it was necessary to revoke the existing Direction and give a new Direction in respect of other parts of this house.

## CLEAN AIR

During the year, thirteen notifications and applications for prior approval for the alteration or installation of furnaces under Section 3, of the Clean Air Act, 1956, were received and approved by the Council. In three of these cases the heights and positioning of the chimneys were also considered and after consultation with the applicants, approval of the Council was given under Section 6 of the Clean Air Act, 1968.

One complaint of dark smoke emission from a chimney and ten complaints of other smoke nuisances were investigated, all of which were dealt with satisfactorily.

Two complaints of offensive smells and fumes alleged to be from the Leadworks were received and were referred to H.M. Inspector Alkali, etc., Works.

Late in December, the Department of Health and Social Security initiated investigations into Environmental Hazards from Lead and in this connection samples of dust and soil from selected areas around the Leadworks were submitted early in 1972, to the Department of Scientific Industrial Research at Warren Spring Laboratories, Stevenage.

During 1971, 36 complaints were received, mainly from residents in the Saltney, Curzon Park and Lache areas of offensive smells emanating from an Animal By-Products Factory situated just outside the City area.

In each case where nuisance was present at the time of the complaint it was investigated and notified to the Works and Hawarden Rural District Council, in whose area the factory is situated.

During the Public Enquiry into the appeal by C. Clutton & Sons, against Flintshire County Council's enforcement notice served under the Town and Country Planning Act, a further serious explosion occurred at the factory and the Enquiry was adjourned to give the parties an opportunity to investigate further the possibility of agreement being reached by which compensation would be paid by the Local Authorities concerned for the closure of the factory in the event of a Discontinuance Order being made.

The City Council finally resolved in March, 1972, to purchase the premises of Messrs. Clutton & Sons, at Saltney, for the sum of £172,500, plus Surveyors' Fees and Legal Costs (in accordance with the District Valuer's reports), and the factory was closed and all operations ceased on 20th April, 1972.

## FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1970

Detailed inspections of food premises continued during the year.

On initial inspection, the premises were classified following consideration of (a) suitability of premises, (b) type and condition of equipment, (c) methods employed and (d) general standards of hygiene.

The following table shows the classification of food premises at the end of 1971:—

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| Excellent .....  | 124        |
| Good .....       | 458        |
| Fair .....       | 169        |
| Poor .....       | 1          |
| Bad .....        | —          |
| <b>TOTAL ...</b> | <b>752</b> |

The following is a list of the food premises in the City, grouped in categories of trade carried on, showing those which comply with Regulation 18 (provision of wash-hand basins, hot and cold water, soap, nail brushes and clean towels) and Regulation 21 (provision of sinks and hot and cold water, etc.) of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970:

|  | No. of<br>Premises | No.<br>fitted to<br>comply with<br>Regulation 18 | No. to<br>which<br>Regulation<br>21<br>applies | No.<br>fitted to<br>comply with<br>Regulation<br>21 |
|--|--------------------|--|--|---|
| Bakehouses .....                         | 5                  | 5  | 5  | 5   |
| Butchers' Shops and<br>Meat Depots ..... | 61                 | 60   | 61   | 60  |
| Cake Shops .....                         | 22                 | 22   | 22   | 22  |
| Canteens .....                           | 47                 | 47   | 47   | 47  |
| Fishmongers .....                        | 9                  | 9  | 9  | 9   |
| Fried Fish Shops .....                   | 20                 | 20   | 20   | 20  |
| General Provision Shops .....            | 130                | 130  | 130  | 130   |
| Greengrocers .....                       | 58                 | 57   | 58   | 58  |
| Hotels and Guest Houses .....            | 55                 | 55   | 55   | 55  |
| Licensed Premises .....                  | 171                | 171  | 171  | 171   |
| Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars        | 71                 | 71   | 71   | 71  |
| Sweets and Ice Cream Shops .....         | 78                 | 78   | 77   | 77  |
| Other Food Premises .....                | 25                 | 25   | 25   | 25  |
|  | <u>752</u>         | <u>750</u>                                       | <u>751</u>                                     | <u>750</u>  |

One hundred and fifty inspections of stalls and delivery vehicles were also made during the year under the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966, as amended. One of these inspections resulted in legal proceedings being instituted against the owner of a meat delivery vehicle in respect of four contraventions of Regulations 5, 13, 23(d) and 23(e) and fines totalling seventeen pounds were imposed.

Lectures and demonstrations have been given to staffs of food premises and various organisations on the principles of food hygiene and the potential dangers due to the neglect of personal and kitchen hygiene.

Two courses each of 14 lectures on food hygiene were also given to food handlers by one of the Senior Public Health Inspectors at the College of Further Education. The courses were based on the syllabus of the Royal Society of Health and after both written and oral external examination at the termination of the courses, a qualifying Diploma certificate was issued by the Society to 20 successful candidates.

## LICENSED PREMISES

One hundred and eighty-seven inspections of licensed premises were carried out.

Works of improvement and modernisation continued and several premises have closed or have been demolished during the year.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

One hundred and seventy-two samples of foods were submitted to the Public Analyst and with the exception of three samples, on which the appropriate action was taken, all were certified to be genuine.

One hundred and twenty-six complaints were received during the year in connection with articles of food purchased in the City. All were investigated and the majority resolved informally, mainly by identifying the cause of the irregularity, and ensuring that adequate precautions were taken to prevent recurrence. Warnings were issued where appropriate.

In three instances where food sold was not of the nature, substance or quality demanded, legal proceedings were instituted under Section 2, and fines of £40, £15 and £25 respectively were imposed.

## THE MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1959

Milk is sold from premises within the City as follows:—

|  |     |     |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Premises registered as Dairies         | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4   |
| Distributors with premises in the City | ... | ... | ... | ... | 101 |

## THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1963 AND 1965

A further ten Dealer's (Pre-Packed Milk) Licences for the sale of designated milk were issued to cover the five year period ending 31st December, 1975, following inspection of all the premises.

### Bacteriological and Biological Examinations of Milk

Thirty-four samples covering five types of milk sold in the City were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. All passed the appropriate tests with the exception of three samples of pasteurised milk which failed the methylene blue test for cleanliness and keeping quality and in each of these cases the producer, retailer and Local Authority concerned were notified of the result and appropriate action requested to prevent a similar recurrence.

No samples of untreated milk were submitted for biological examination because the supply of untreated milk in the City had virtually ceased.

## ICE CREAM

### Bacteriological Samples

#### Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1959

During the year five samples of ice cream were bacteriologically examined at the Public Health Laboratory and all were found to be satisfactory.

## SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

One new licence and twelve renewal licences were issued to Slaughtermen during the year to slaughter or stun animals in a slaughterhouse or knackers yard.

## MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

In accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, all animals slaughtered and meat dressed in the City are inspected by the Authorised Meat Inspectors at the Public Abattoir.

Food condemned during the year amounted to:—

|   | Tons | Cwts. | Qrs. | Lbs. |
|---|------|-------|------|------|
| Meat and Offal at the Public<br>Abattoir           ...   ...   ...    | 36   | 13    | 3    | 8    |
| Food at other premises through-<br>out the City       ...   ...   ... | 23   | 4     | —    | 14   |
| TOTAL   | 59   | 17    | 3    | 22   |



The following table shows the percentage of animals affected with disease:—

**CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN  
WHOLE OR IN PART**

|   | Cattle<br>excluding<br>Cows | Cows  | Calves | Sheep<br>&<br>Lambs | Pigs  |
|---|-----------------------------|-------|--------|---------------------|-------|
| Number killed and inspected ...   | 9194                        | 46    | 29     | 15997               | 23830 |
| <b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis<br/>and Cysticercus Bovis</b>                           |                             |       |        |                     |       |
| Whole carcasses condemned ...   | 7                           | —     | —      | 44                  | 79    |
| Carcases of which some part<br>or organ was condemned ...                                   | 3647                        | 30    | —      | 2074                | 7203  |
| Percentage ... ..   | 39.74                       | 65.22 | —      | 13.24               | 30.56 |
| Tuberculosis only ... ..  | —                           | —     | —      | —                   | —     |
| <b>Cysticercosis</b>  |                             |       |        |                     |       |
| Carcases of which some part<br>or organ was condemned and<br>the remainder refrigerated ... | 56                          | —     | —      | —                   | —     |
| Percentage ... ..   | 0.609                       | —     | —      | —                   | —     |

This was the fourth consecutive year during which all animals passing through the abattoir were free from tuberculosis.

**Poultry Inspection**

There are no poultry processing premises in the City.



## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

This Act makes provision for the health, safety and welfare of persons employed in the above premises, and in Chester, 12,217 persons are employed in 1,057 registered premises.

During the year the major part of the work under the provisions of this Act involved the reinspection of registered premises where contraventions of the Act had been noted on initial inspection. The number of initial inspections undertaken was small, being of new premises and those where there had been change of occupancy since the premises were previously inspected.

Sixteen accidents were reported during the year being three fewer than those reported in 1970. All accidents were investigated and in one instance where a twenty-two year old female office employee was injured by a lift gate resulting in part of her little finger on the right hand being severed, the City Council whilst recognising contravention of Regulation 7(1) of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises (Hoists and Lifts) Regulations, 1968, resolved not to institute legal proceedings in this case but a warning letter was sent to both the office Company and the lift engineers concerned.

It is felt that this accident could have been averted had the defect (a missing vision panel on a landing gate) been regarded by the 'competent person' employed by the firm of lift engineers carrying out the statutory inspection of the lift, as a defect which needed, either immediately or within a specified time, repairs, renewals or alterations to enable the lift to continue to be used with safety.

Apparently the lift engineer did not consider that this was so and consequently the defect was not inserted in Section 5 of the prescribed 'Form Of Report On Examination Of Hoist Or Lift', thus obviating the need for notification of the defect to the Local Authority.

Had such notification been received the Public Health Inspector would have visited the premises immediately, as is always done in such cases, to ensure that either (a) the lift would not be used until the defect had been remedied or (b) the defect would be remedied in the time stated.

Implementation of the Act continues to show improvement in working conditions generally and it was not necessary to resort to the institution of legal proceedings.

## Registration and General Inspections

| Class of Premises  | Number of premises<br>registered during<br>1971 | Total number of<br>registered premises<br>at end of 1971 | Number of<br>registered premises<br>receiving general<br>inspection during<br>the year |
|--|---|--|--|
| Offices ... ..   | 16  | 363  | 37   |
| Retail Shops ... ..  | 34  | 545  | 229  |
| Wholesale Shops,<br>Warehouses   | —   | 42   | 10   |
| Catering Establishments<br>open to the public,<br>Canteens                       | 5   | 107  | 44   |
| Fuel Storage Depots ...  | —   | —  | —  |
| TOTALS ...   | 55  | 1057   | 320  |
| Number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to Registered<br>Premises ... .. 407 |   |  |  |

## Analysis of persons employed in Registered Premises by workplace:

| Class of Workplace                                | Number of<br>Persons Employed |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Offices ... ..                                    | 5345                          |
| Retail Shops ... ..                               | 4572                          |
| Wholesale Departments, Warehouses ... ..          | 868                           |
| Catering Establishments open to the Public ... .. | 1336                          |
| Canteens ... ..                                   | 87                            |
| Fuel Storage Depots ... ..                        | 9                             |
|   | 12217                         |

(4,870 Males, 7,347 Females)

## ACCIDENTS

Accidents to persons employed in registered premises must be notified under the Act and the following tables show the number of accidents reported, the action taken following investigations and an analysis of the causes of the accidents:—

### Reported Accidents

| Workplace  | Number Reported<br>and Investigated | Action Taken |                |                 |           |
|--|-------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------|
|  |                                     | Prosecution  | Formal Warning | Informal Advice | No Action |
| Offices ... ..   | 1                                   | —            | 1              | —               | —         |
| Retail Shops ... ..  | 10                                  | —            | —              | 10              | —         |
| Wholesale Shops,<br>Warehouses                             | —                                   | —            | —              | —               | —         |
| Catering Establishments<br>open to the public,<br>Canteens | 5                                   | —            | —              | 5               | —         |
| Fuel Storage Depots ...                                    | —                                   | —            | —              | —               | —         |
| <b>TOTALS ...</b>  | <b>16</b>                           | <b>—</b>     | <b>1</b>       | <b>15</b>       | <b>—</b>  |

### Analysis of Reported Accidents

|  | Offices | Retail Shops | Wholesale<br>Warehouses | Catering<br>Establishments<br>open to the Public,<br>Canteens | Fuel Storage<br>Depots |
|--|---------|--------------|-------------------------|---|------------------------|
| Machinery ... ..                                       | 1       | 1            | —                       | —   | —                      |
| Transport ... ..                                       | —       | —            | —                       | —   | —                      |
| Falls of Persons ...                                   | —       | 2            | —                       | 3   | —                      |
| Stepping on or<br>striking against object<br>or person | —       | —            | —                       | —   | —                      |
| Handling goods ...                                     | —       | 4            | —                       | 1   | —                      |
| Struck by falling object                               | —       | —            | —                       | —   | —                      |
| Fires and explosions ...                               | —       | —            | —                       | —   | —                      |
| Electricity ... ..                                     | —       | —            | —                       | —   | —                      |
| Use of hand tools ...                                  | —       | —            | —                       | —   | —                      |
| Not otherwise specified                                | —       | 3            | —                       | 1   | —                      |

# PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

## RODENT CONTROL

### Rats in Sewers

During Spring and Autumn selected manholes on the older sewers which had been infested in the past were treated with fluoroacetamide poison in an endeavour to keep them clear of rats.

The Autumn sewer treatment was preceded by a test bait, which showed a limited reinfestation of some sewers in the Garden Lane area which was subsequently extensively treated. Otherwise, except for a few isolated 'takes' of bait in the Newtown and Central areas of the City the remainder of the sewers were free from rats.

### Surface Infestations

Besides treatment of the sewers; the refuse tip, sewage works, together with building and demolition sites are kept under routine observation and treated when necessary. Regular inspections of 'black spots' (sites which have been subject to rat infestation in the past) have continued.

|  |     |     |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Number of 'black spots'                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 70  |
| Number of visits to 'black spots'      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 271 |
| Number of 'black spots' found infested | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16  |

In addition, 353 permanent baiting points were maintained throughout the City during 1971.

These consist of Warfarin baits in pipes laid mostly along the banks of the river, canal and brooks and the railway embankments, all again potential breeding sites for rats, particularly where these pass near to houses or other premises. These points are visited at intervals and baits replenished if necessary.

The object is to deal with rats coming into the area and so prevent colonies and infestations arising.

|                                       |     |     |     |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Number of permanent baiting points    | ... | ... | ... | 353 |
| Number of visits to these points      | ... | ... | ... | 500 |
| Number of these points found infested | ... | ... | ... | 133 |

The following is the Annual Report on Rodent Control for 1971 as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

## RODENT CONTROL—REPORT FOR 1971

|   | TYPE OF PROPERTY |              |
|---|------------------|--------------|
|   | Non Agricultural | Agricultural |
| 1. Number of Properties in District   | 25694            | 8            |
| 2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification ... ..   | 503              | —            |
| (b) Number infested by:   |                  |              |
| (i) Rats ... ..   | 85               | —            |
| (ii) Mice ... ..  | 381              | —            |
| 3. (a) Total number of properties (sites) inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification (black spots and permanent baiting points for rats) ... .. | 423              | —            |
| Number infested by:   |                  |              |
| (i) Rats ... ..   | 149              | —            |
| (ii) Mice ... ..  | —                | —            |
| 4. Were any sewers infested by rats during the year? ... ..   | Yes              |              |

The number of properties infested by rats 2b(i) is the same as for the previous year, thus holding steady the considerable reduction which has been achieved in previous years.

The number of properties infested by mice 2b(ii) has increased by 40% over last year, emphasising the continuing difficulty of controlling warfarin resistant mice without an effective alternative rodenticide, which despite many years of research is not yet available.

### PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Five shop premises where pets are kept for sale were licensed under the Act following inspection, and all complied with the terms of the licences.

### ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Two premises where animals are boarded under the Act were licensed following inspection.

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered Common Lodging Houses within the City.

### NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Fourteen complaints were received during the year of noise nuisance, twelve of which were dealt with satisfactorily. In the other two cases investigations are continuing.

### LECTURES

During the year, lectures on various aspects of Environmental Hygiene were given to a number of organisations, students and nurses.



# FACTORIES ACT, 1961

## PART I

### 1. Inspections.

| Premises  | Number on Register | Inspections | Number of       |                      |
|---|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
|   |                    |             | Notices Written | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authorities ... ..                           | 28                 | 5           | —               | —                    |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority                            | 316                | 94          | 10              | —                    |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ... .. | 12                 | 11          | —               | —                    |
| TOTAL   | 356                | 110         | 10              | —                    |

### 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

| Particulars   | No. of Cases in which defects were found |          |                            |                   | No. of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted |
|---|--|----------|----------------------------|-------------------|--|
|   | Found                                    | Remedied | Referred To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector |  |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..  | —  | —        | —                          | —                 | —  |
| Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..   | —  | —        | —                          | —                 | —  |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3)  | —  | —        | —                          | —                 | —  |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...  | —  | —        | —                          | —                 | —  |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..   | —  | —        | —                          | —                 | —  |
| Sanitary conveniences (S.7):  |  |          |                            |                   |  |
| (a) Insufficient ... ..   | —  | —        | —                          | —                 | —  |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective ..  | 14                                       | 13       | —                          | —                 | —  |
| (c) Not separate for sexes ...  | —  | —        | —                          | —                 | —  |
| Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Out work) ... .. | —  | —        | —                          | —                 | —  |
| TOTAL   | 14                                       | 13       | —                          | —                 | —  |

## PART VIII

## OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

| NATURE OF WORK                   | SECTION 133  |   |   | SECTION 134                                      |                |              |
|----------------------------------|--|---|---|--|----------------|--------------|
| (1)                              | No. of outworkers in August list required by Sect. 133(1)(c) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises | Notices served | Prosecutions |
|                                  | (2)  | (3)   | (4)   | (5)  | (6)            | (7)          |
| Wearing Apparel—Making, etc. ... | 7  | —   | —   | —  | —              | —            |











